MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 JANUARY 1983

Lebanon

Results of Subcommittee Talks -- Progress was made on the issues of liaison and stopping hostile propaganda during the 27 January meetings of the Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. subcommittees in Qiryat Shemona, Beirut and Jerusalem radios reported citing remarks by the Lebanese military spokesman and the Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman. The spokesman announced that the delegations will hold a plenary session 31 January in Khaldah and that the subcommittees will meet 1-2 February in Netanya.

Sharon Visit -- Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon returned to Israel after a "secret" meeting in Beirut with Christian leaders and heads of the Lebanese Forces, Jerusalem radio reported. During the meeting Sharon discussed the negotiations with Lebanon on security arrangements and normalization, the radio added.

Salim, Al-Wazzan on PLO, Israel, Syria -- Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim stated that no armed Palestinian forces will remain in Lebanon, Beirut radio reported citing Salim's remarks during a news conference. He added that Lebanon was the only state that gave the PLO an opportunity to test a "specific tactic" but that this tactic failed and led to the destruction of both the Palestinian cause and Lebanon. The minister said that the world recognizes the justness of the Palestinian cause but that in his view Israel does not oppose what is just. Salim affirmed Lebanon's sovereignty and its desire to establish the "strongest" relations with Syria. He noted that Lebanon's policy is based on positive stands aimed at securing rapprochement among the various parties. In an earlier Voice of Lebanon radio report on the news conference, the foreign minister stressed that there are "no enmities" between Lebanon and other states in the area. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan denied the existence of Syrian and Palestinian obstacles to achieving comprehensive withdrawals from Lebanon and pointed out that Israel's "specific requests" to Lebanon are contrary to Lebanese sovereignty, Beirut radio reported citing Al-Wazzan's remarks to the paper AL-BAYRAQ. The prime minister emphasized that Lebanon has an "understanding" with the Palestinians on the question of withdrawal and that the Palestinians have declared "positive stands" that were communicated to Lebanon through "certain channels," the radio added.

Military, Security Situation -- The commander of the IDF Northern Command and the commander of the U.S. forces in Lebanon met in Beirut and agreed to maintain regular telephone contacts to prevent future misunderstandings and incidents between IDF soldiers and Marines, IDF Radio reported. The radio added that the two sides reaffirmed the railroad track as the border between the forces.

Iraq-Iran War

Iraqi President Saddam Husayn is ready to go to Tehran and meet with Ayatollah Khomeyni if such a meeting would stop the bloodshed and end the Iraqi-Iranian war, Radio Monte Carlo reported citing Husayn's remarks to the Madrid paper EL PAIS. In his statement the president declared that Iraq will crush the offensive which Iran is preparing to launch against the Maysan area during the next few days. In another development Iranian air defense units shot down an Iraqi aircraft in the Moharram region, an Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio claimed. Meanwhile, Iraqi fighter planes shot down an Iranian aircraft during a dogfight over the Ash-Shib region, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio.

PLO Affairs

In a statement issued after 25-27 January talks in Aden, the PLO Executive Committee said a document adopted in Aden last month which rejected every peace initiative that does not recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination would form the basis for a common stand, according to Amman television. The television report noted that George Habash and Nayif Hawatimah did not attend the meetings. Meanwhile, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat chaired a Fatah Revolutionary Council meeting during which the committee discussed Palestinian and Arab developments and the February meeting of the PNC, Aden radio reported.

In another development Palestinian fighters blew up an Israeli intelligence center in the Kafr Saba settlement, Damascus radio reported citing a Palestinian official spokesman. The spokesman affirmed that the explosion wounded or killed a number of Israelis and caused heavy damage to the building. Earlier, a Palestinian military spokesman quoted by WAFA said Palestinian fighters were responsible for shelling Israeli positions near Zarit settlement and that helicopters evacuated the wounded, Amman television reported.

Oman-PDRY Border Talks

The committee established to settle the border dispute between Oman and the PDRY concluded its first meeting in Abu Dhabi, according to Abu Dhabi radio. The meeting was characterized by "an atmosphere of friendliness and understanding" based on both sides' eagerness to settle all differences. It was agreed to continue future discussions, the radio reported citing a press statement issued by the committee.

Egypt

President Husni Mubarak held talks with President Reagan and said later that they covered a comprehensive review of Middle East events including Lebanon, the Palestinian question, the Iraq-Iran war, as well as bilateral relations, MENA reported. Mubarak affirmed his satisfaction with the talks, MENA added.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PLO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ENDS MEETINGS IN ADEN

GF271432 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee, the leadership of the PNC, and representatives of Palestinian revolution factions concluded their meetings in Aden today under the chairmanship of Brother Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces. The meetings were held 25-27 January as a continuation of meetings held during past weeks in order to strengthen and confirm the unity of the Palestinian national stand.

A statement issued following the meetings of the PLO Executive Commiteee indicated that the meeting discussed preparations for the PNC, which is expected to convene in Algeria on 14 February. All aspects of political and administrative preparations were discussed.

The statement affirmed that the Aden declaration which stemmed from the meeting of the Executive Committee and secretary general on 5 December constitutes an important basis for asserting the unity and independence of the Palestinian nation and the conception of the Palestinian revolution in its struggle at this stage. Our Palestinian people are fighting the most intense battles agaist the conspiracies of imperialism and Zionism and in order to bolster national ranks.

In its statement the meeting expressed its appreciation to the PDRY party and people, particularly to 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, YSP Central Committee secretary general, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, for hosting the celebrations of the 18th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution in Aden and for the spirit of brotherhood and joint destiny that was stressed by the masses of the fraternal Yemeni people, which expressed the unity of struggle and blood that was baptized in the battles of Beirut and Lebanon.

The statement explained that the Palestinian revolution's Supreme Military Council held a meeting that was dedicated to discussing the military tasks that are shouldered by the revolution's forces. It also discussed the escalation of armed struggle inside the occupied territory as well as measures to complete the uniting of the revolution's forces in accordance with the decisions previously adopted by the council on this matter.

The statement indicated that Abu 'Ammar informed the Military Council of the greetings and appreciation of the Palestinian leadership for the great efforts that were made by the council to rebuild and reorganize the revolution's forces, efforts that were clearly reflected during the marvelous military parade held during the revolution anniversary celebrations. The statement added that the conferees agreed to hold a similar meeting in Algiers prior to convening the National Council.

Amman Television Report

JN271841 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] At the end of its meetings in Aden today, the PLO Executive Committee released a statement which, according to observers, reflects a middle-of-the-road stand toward the peace initiatives proposed for solving the Middle East crisis. The statement explains that the Palestinian document which was drafted in Aden 3 weeks ago will serve as a basis for the PLO's general situation.

It may be recalled that the Aden document rejected every peace initiative that does not recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

Palestinian sources in Aden said that the outcome of the meeting will be submitted to the PNC, which is scheduled to convene in Algiers next month.

In another development, George Habash, Nayif Hawatimah, Ahmad Jibril, Samir Ghawshah, and 'Isam al-Qadi failed to attend the meeting. They represent the elements which Libya and Syria are encouraging to drive a wedge into Palestinian ranks and to oppose the political course being pursued by Yasir 'Arafat and other PLO leaders, in an attempt to oust 'Arafat. Reports said that these elements, whom represent 15 percent of the PLO membership, signed the Tripoli declaration 2 weeks ago. Yasir 'Arafat described the declaration as a purely Libyan declaration signed by 'Abd as-Salam Jallud.

FATAH REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL MEETS IN PDRY

GF280516 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] The Fatah Revolutionary Council began its meeting in Aden this evening under Brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces.

The council reviewed political developments that have taken place since the council's last meeting, particular Palestinian issues, means of consolidating Palestinian unity, the tasks of the PNC at its next meeting scheduled to be held in Algiers in February, and the outcome of conferences and meetings between the Palestinian organization leaders in various areas. It also reviewed Arab and international developments.

PDRY CHAIRMAN RECEIVES VISITING PLO LEADERS

GF271612 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received Brother Tal'at Ya'qub, secretary general of the Palestinian Liberation Front [PLF], in his office at the Central Committee Secretariat today. Relations between the YSP and PLF were discussed. They also exchanged views on a number of issues that the Arabs are (?facing) in the Middle East, particularly in the Palestinian and Lebanese arenas. The Brothers 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and Tal'at Ya'qub assessed the development of the stable relations between the Yemeni and Palestinian revolutions.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad also received in his office at the Central Committee Secretariat Brothers Yasir 'Abd Rabduh, assistant secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], and Abu Mahir Yamani, member of the Political Bureau of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP]. A friendly talk was held dealing with the firm historic relations that link the YSP with the DFLP and PFLP. During the meeting Brother 'Ali Nasir heard a detailed explanation on recent developments in the Middle East and efforts made by the PLO under its leadership to strengthen the struggle of the Arab Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories and resist imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary plots aimed at imposing submissive plans on the Palestinian and Arab peoples.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad also received Brother Talal Naji, assistant secretary general of the general leadership of the PFLP. Relations between the YSP and PFLP were discussed.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad also received today PNC Chairman Brother Kahlid al-Fahum, who briefed him on preparations for the next session of the PNC due to be held in February in Algeria. The meeting was attended by Brother Colonel 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, member of the Political Bureau, deputy chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and first deputy chiarman of the Council of Ministers.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad received today Brother Nuri 'Abd ar-Razzaq, secretary general of AAPSO, and discussed with him a number of issues dealing with the movement of peace of the peoples of Asia and Africa, efforts made by the Solidarity Organization to strengthen the struggle of peoples of Africa and Asia against imperialism, Zionism, and reaction, and the world peace movement. Brother 'Ali Nasir assessed the efforts made and being made by the Arab solidarity organization with our Arab peoples and lauded the positive results that emerged from the meeting of the Arab solidarity committees in Aden.

AL-HASAN ON EGYPT STANCE, EXILE GOVERNMENT

GF261558 Doha QNA in Arabic 0945 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Jan (QNA) -- Member of the Fatah Central Committee Khalid al-Hasan has said that a basic change has occurred in the Egyptian political stance since President Husni Mubarak [came to power]. He said this change is represented by the fact that the Egyptian president has almost abandoned the basic principles of As-Sadat concerning the Palestinian part of the Campt David accords. Khalid al-Hasan said that the Egyptian role during the events of Lebanon was distinguished and positive in stopping the Israeli invasion. In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' published today, he added: Through the move of the Egyptian people and their national leadership, matters are going in the right direction. He said that Egypt's absence from the Arab arena is painful and hazardous at the same time, not only at the level of struggle with Israel, but also at the level of civilization of the Arab nation.

The Palestinian official at the same time affirmed that the Egyptian role has not yet reached the point that it is possible to normalize Palestinian-Egyptian relations. He said the PLO is waiting for further change from President Husni Mubarak in the direction of the national Palestinian stance and its national dimensions. Regarding Arab-Palestinian relations, he said that the supreme Palestinian interest requires that the PLO should not enter into any kind of differences or any estrangement and hostility with any Arab country, because the popular support of the Arab masses is a basis for strengthening the progress of Palestinian work.

Regarding the issue of a government-in-exile, he said that a government-in-exile really has no practical meaning because the PLO is recognized by the Arab governments and it is a full member of the Arab League. Therefore, there is nothing that can hinder the signing of any agreement between the organization and any Arab country. He said that a government-in-exile will not change the current status of the PLO.

INA: NEW PLO REPRESENTATIVE IN MOSCOW

JN261145 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1122 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow, 26 Jan (INA) -- Palestinian sources told the INA correspondent here today that Rami ash-Sha'ir has been appointed PLO representative in Moscow to replace his father, Dr Muhammad ash-Sha'ir, who died of an incurable illness in Sofia on 13 January. Rami ash-Sha'ir, 29 years old, is an engineer and served as military attache in the PLO office in Moscow.

GULF AFFAIRS

PDRY-OMAN BORDER COMMITTEE ISSUES STATEMENT

GF271650 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 27 Jan 83

["Text" of press statement issued by the Oman-PDRY Border committee following conclusion of meetings in Abu Dhabi on 27 January -- read by announcer]

[Text] In implementation of the agreement of principles signed between the Sultanate of Oman and the PDRY in Kuwait on 27 October 1982, in the presence and under the auspices of Kuwait and the UAE, and that was approved by both political leaderships in Muscat and Aden -- the technical committee on borders between the Sultanate of Oman and the PDRY held its first meeting in Abu Dhabi, the UAE, 25-27 January 1983 in the presence of the Kuwaiti and UAE delegations. The meeting was characterized by an atmosphere of friendliness and understanding based on both countries' complete anxiousness and their truthful desire to implement the agreement that was reached and to settle all differences, especially those related to the issue of the border between the two fraternal neighbors.

The committee listened to what both countries' delegations put forward on their concept of the borders of their respective countries and their countries' viewpoints on this matter.

In accordance with what was submitted by the Omani and PDRY delegations, the committee discussed this topic in order to contribute to finding the rules and appropriate bases for settling and solving the border problem between the two countries. Hence, it was agreed to continue discussing the issue in a future meeting in order to reach a solution that will serve the interests of both fraternal countries and that will bring good and benefit both of them in particular and to the regon's countries and peoples in general.

KUWAIT

AS-SIYASAH BACKS 'ARAFAT MEETING WITH ISRAELIS

GF261846 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 24 Jan 83 p 1

[Editorial: "Let 'Arafat Do Whatever He Sees Suitable for His People"]

[Excerpts] Yasir 'Arafat did well by receiving a group of Israeli oppositionists.

He did well, because since 1948 we have been refusing the possible and demanding the impossible and afterwards we once again demand the possible and the once possible becomes impossible.

Since 1948 and with our full knowledge that Israel enjoys the care of the Soviet Union and the United States, we persisted in asking the impossible, and the impossible is effectively supported by the United States and the Soviet Union, the two superpowers that see to the existence of Israel despite the Arabs and their romantic talk about international and legal rights. The legitimacy for the superpowers is that Israel stays and the Arabs abide by what the United States and the Soviet Union impose.

Yasir 'Arafat must pave his way to serve his homeland's cause even if that leads him to declare his readiness for direct talks with Israel. Why not if that means the existence of the Palestinian people and an establishment of a homeland for them? And let us see in the future who will have reasons for existence.

While the Arabs wait to change themselves into a power to impose its will, the slogan "O Palestine we came back to you" will remain just a song that only makes its singer famous.

SAUDI ARABIA

CHANGE IN U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD ISRAEL NOTED

LD280523 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Husayn al-Askari commentary]

[Text] The U.S. State Department has explained that it does not want the enemy prime minister, Menahem Begin, to pay a visit to Washington unless substantial progress is made with regard to the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon.

The disagreement between the United States and Israel over the U.S. position on a solution to the question of the Israeli military presence in Lebanon, [words indistinct] Israel wants to impose with the U.S. backing, this disagreement now constitutes an issue which observers in general and the Arabs in particular view with some lack of reassurance, despite attempts by the Reagan administration to give the impression that it is not satisfied with the Israeli practices, practices which, from the U.S. point of view, are aimed at harming the Americans in the eyes of the Arabs out of Israel's feeling that any slight leaning by the United States toward the Arab right will constitute a grave threat to the Zionist entity.

Israel is most anxious to keep U.S. eyes focused on it. But it seems that the continued Israeli exploitation of U.S. sympathy has gone beyond all limits and has reached a point whereby the Americans are beginning to feel that their national interests are being jeopardized and that they have to view matters from the angle of facts. Hence, the U.S. State Department explanation yesterday that it does not want the enemy, Prime Minister Menahem Begin, to visit Washington unless substantial progress is made with regard to the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon.

While this attitude does not necessarily make one believe that there are differences of opinion between Washington and Tel Aviv, it at least makes one believe that America's feeling of displeasure is beginning to grow toward a difficult and a mean friend who exploits friendship more than it can tolerate. Thus it can be said that any stiffening of the U.S. attitude toward Israel is bound to have an impact that would force Israel to return to reality, and to deal with the fact of the matter.

In view of this, the heated dialogue presently taking place between Washington and the Zionist entity over Lebanon constitutes a challenge in which the side which is more capable of persuading the other side to accept reality, positively or negatively, will triumph.

'UKAZ ON STEPS TO CONTAIN OPEC 'SETBACK'

LD271515 Riyadh SPA in English 1331 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 27 (SPA) -- A Saudi newspaper today described the setback suffered by OPEC, following the failure of the Geneva-held conference, as a casual slip and affirmed that oil-producing countries had taken all the necessary measures to contain the crisis and restore unity to the organisation.

'UKAZ, published in Jidda, said that despite the failure which was considered a dangerous precedent, OPEC was reorganising itself and reconsidering economic priorities to preserve its unity and cohesion in the interest of both oil producers and consumers.

Speedy and effective contacts are underway between Gulf oil-producing states and international oil companies to achieve a reassuring situation allaying fears that resulted from the conference's failure, it added.

It said the outcome of measures and precautions being taken to prevent any deterioration in the international oil market and foil all attempts to undermine OPEC would become evident soon.

PDRY

YSP, BULGARIAN DELEGATION ISSUE JOINT STATEMENT

GF270826 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] The YSP and the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] affirmed their rejection of U.S. plans in the Middle East which are aimed to prevent the Arab Palestinian people from exercising their right to establish an independent state on their land and bypass the United Nations in solving the Middle East problem. They announced their opposition to attempts to replace a comprehensive and just solution of the Middle East problem with surrender agreements in the style of the Camp David accords.

This came in a joint statement issued on the visit of the BCP delegation led by Comrade Dimitur Stanishev, secretary of the BCP Central Committee.

The statement stressed the importance of holding an international conference to solve the Middle East problem, with the participation of the PLO as an equal with the rest of the concerned parties, since it is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The PDRY and Bulgaria stressed the importance of struggle for peace, for preventing a destructive nuclear war, and for the need to develop cooperation among countries with various social systems.

They expressed their deep concern for the escalation of international tension as a result of the dangerous policy of the U.S. Administration and the aggressive circles in NATO.

BRIEFS

ARAB LOAN -- Kuwait, 24 Jan (WAKH) -- A loan agreement was signed in Kuwait today between the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development [AFESD] and the PDRY for the amount of 1 million Kuwaiti dinars. The agreement was signed on the PDRY's behalf by 'Ali 'Aydarus Hayha, the PDRY ambassador to Kuwait, and on the AFESD's behalf by Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, director general and chairman of the Board of Directors. [Text] [Manama WAKH in Arabic 1150 GMT 24 Jan 83 GF]

MUBARAK ARRIVES AT WHITE HOUSE, MEETS REAGAN

NC271754 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Washington, 27 Jan (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak and the official Egyptian delegation accompanying him arrived at the White House at 1130 Washington time, 1830 Cairo time, where he was received by President Ronald Reagan.

The summit meeting between Presidents Reagan and Mubarak began with a private meeting in the Oval Office in the White House at about 1130 Washington time.

After the private meeting, which lasted 15 minutes, the two presidents were joined on the Egyptian side by Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs; Dr Usamah al-Baz, head of the president's office for politcial affairs; and Dr Ashraf Ghurbal, Egyptian ambassador in Washington.

The meeting was also joined on the U.S. side by Vice President George Bush; Secretary of State George Shultz; William Clark, the President's adviser on national security affairs; and Ambassador Philip Habib, the President's Middle East envoy.

Delivers Speech

NC272005 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1915 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Washington, 27 Jan (MENA) -- In their speeches after their talks President Ronald Reagan and Husni Mubarak affirmed that during their talks they focused on developments in the Middle East situation, the situation in Lebanon and the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon as soon as possible, as well as the question of comprehensive peace, the negotiations on the Palestinian problem, the Iraq-Iran war, and the need to put an end to it for stability in the area.

President Mubarak said in his speech: I was pleased to meet my friend President Reagan once again to continue our discussions on the issues of common interest. As President Reagan said in his speech, our meeting provided an opportunity to review the situation in the Middle East with a view to bolstering the possibilities of peace and stability in that disturbed area.

President Mubarak added: We focused our discussions on the situation in Lebanon and the negotiations on the Palestinian problem. I welcome President Reagan's assurances regarding the determination of the United States to continue its role as a full partner in the peace process and his assurances regarding the U.S. commitment to support Lebanon's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. The time factor has become decisive for the success of our efforts. Absolute priority must be given for achieving an agreement on the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon. When we achieve that, the solution of the other aspects of the problem will become easier.

We think it is necessary to achieve significant progress toward comprehensive peace. In this regard, the fact that the Palestinian problem is the basis of the whole conflict does not require explanation. Our support for President Reagan's initiative was given on this basis.

President Mubarak said in his speech: We have great hopes that the coming weeks will witness a move toward the negotiations table by all the parties concerned. I am happy to say that what I heard from King Husayn has encouraged me, as did that which I heard from the Palestinian and other Arab leaders. I believe we have a golden opportunity which would be extremely wrong to miss.

I also belive thatthe peace process will be further bolstered if the United States intensifies its move toward supporting the Palestinians' legitimate right to self-determination.

We agreed that the policy of establishing settlements constitutes a grave obstacle in the way of peace. Further efforts must be exerted to stop the building of settlements.

I discussed with President Reagan some aspects of the Iraqi-Iranian war and the need to exert further efforts to end military operations immediately.

President Mubarak added that in the field of bilateral relations, they discussed economic and military cooperation. I conveyed to President Reagan our gratitude to the American people for their constant support, whcih will enhance our ability to tackle the economic problems facing us. The United States has proved it is a true and reliable friend. We are determined to [words indistinct] and bolster our cooperation. Thank you. [passage indistinct]

Satisfied With U.S. Talks

LD272334 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2140 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Washington, 27 Jan (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak met this afternnon with members of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives. Present at the meeting were Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs; Hajih Muhammad Shindi, minister of international investment and cooperation; Dr Kamal Ahmad al-Janzuri, minister of planning; Mustafa Kamil as-Sa'id Ibrahim, minister of economy and foreign trade; Ashraf Ghurbal, Egyptian ambassador to the United States; and the American ambassador to Cairo, Alfred Atherton.

At the beginning of the meeting, Speaker of the House O'Neill expressed his hope that Mubarak's visit will further cooperation and friendship between the two countries. He also expressed his hope that the visit will help to establish peace in the Middle East and lead to a peaceful solution between Israel and its neighbors.

Husni Mubarak delivered a speech in which he expressed his happiness at visiting the friendly United States and for having the opportunity to meet with members of the U.S. House of Representatives. He said: We will work for the bolstering of friendship between our two countries -- friendship which was entrenched during the days of late President Anwar as-Sadat, who led Egypt to peace. Mubarak concluded by expressing his readiness to answer all questions.

President Mubarak then answered questions from the press. He said that he has affirmed to President Reagan that the time factor is decisive and extremely important. He added that President Reagan is determined to continue his initiative and that he is awaiting the return of King Husayn who has been coordinating matters with the Palestinians. This is bound to help everyone to sit at the negotiating table and find a final solution for the Palestine problem.

President Mubarak described his talks with President Reagan as good and said that they covered a comprehensive review of the events in the region including Lebanon, the Palestine question, the Iraqi-Iranian war, world problems, and bilateral relations. President Mubarak affirmed his satisfaction with his talks.

Second Meeting With Shultz

LD280016 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2335 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Washington, 27 Jan (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak resumed his talks with American officials by holding a second meeting this evening with Secretary of State George Shultz, whom he received at the premises of the Egyptian Embassy in Washington where President Mubarak is staying.

The meeting is a continuation of the talks President Mubarak had with U.S. President Reagan at the White House this morning and with Caspar Weinberger. President Mubarak began talks upon his arrival in Washington yesterday afternoon by meeting Shultz.

Yesterday's meeting with Shultz was attended by U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib and U.S. Ambassador to Cairo Alfred Atherton. From the Egyptian side, the meeting was attended by Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs; Ministers Kamal al-Janzuri, Dr Wajih Shindi, and Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id, and Ambassador Ashraf Ghurbal.

Meets With Ministers

NC271724 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] President Husni Mubarak today received the ministers of planning, investment, international cooperation and economy at his temporary residence in Washington.

Economy Minister Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id Ibrahim said he and his coleagues submitted a report to the president on the results of the discussions which they held with the American side in the past few days on economic cooperation between Egypt and the United States. He said the U.S. response to all the Egyptian proposals was encouraging. He added that the cooperation between Egypt and the United States centers on the U.S. investment in Egypt and the expansion of trade between the two countries in addition to increasing Egyptian exports to the United States.

KAMAL HASAN 'ALI ON MUBARAK'S U.S. VISIT

NC271540 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Kuwait, 27 Jan (MENA) -- Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has emphasized that the remaining 10 months before the U.S. presidential elections campaign are sufficient for the Arabs to launch a major diplomatic campaign to achieve a just peace in the Middle East. In a statement published today in the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA', 'Ali said the Arabs must first agree on guidelines for the future political moves to enable every Arab party to move flexibly and in line with its abilities and circumstances.

In this respect, 'Ali pointed out that owing to variables and military moves, Israel has managed to make use of the time factor in its favor for the short and medium term. He described Israel's intransigence and rigidity in the negotiations for withdrawal from Lebanon as an attempt to impose a fait accompli and to stall the process of discussing the fate of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip until the beginning of the forthcoming U.S. elections. He expressed Egypt's denunciation of all attempts to hamper the Palestinian-Jordanian moves.

In another statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-WATAN, 'Ali said he held a series of contacts and meetings with PLO representatives during and after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

He denied that the PLO had asked Egypt for a declaration of principles prior to a visit to Cairo by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. He asserted that what the Palestinians are asking for is Egypt's actual position without any new declaration. He called on the Palestinian command to make moves quickly and effectively toward a peaceful solution and not to allow any force seekings its own interests to hinder the Palestinian people's march.

'Ali described the Palestine National Council's forthcoming meeting as one of the most serious meetings, because its results will have decisive dimensions on the Palestinian people's future and legitimate rights. He also called for further Egyptian-Jordanian-Palestinian understanding in preparation for the expanded negotiations for the settlement, saying the various stands on this issue will become clear within 2 months.

On President Husni Mubarak's current visit to the United States, 'Ali said that during this visit, Mubarak will discuss the need for the United States to succeed in settling the issue of the withdrawal of all forces from Lebanon and stopping the Israeli settlements and the attempt to impose a fait accompli in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. 'Ali described the period between Mubarak's visit to the United States and until the end of March as important, because during this time the situation in Lebanon and the results of the U.S. contacts with the parties concerned prior to the start of the negotiations, as well as the Palestine National Council's meetings, will become clear.

'Ali affirmed Egypt's adherence to the agreement signed with Israel on 25 April 1982 regarding the Tabah issue, an agreement which provides that neither of the two parties carry out new activities in the area. He said that, accordingly, Egypt does not recognize any legal or any other results in light of Israel's inauguration of the Tabah hotel.

On the situation between Egypt and Libya, 'Ali said the situation is characterized by quiet and that there are no problems on the borders between the two countries. He pointed out that there are relations of quiet neighborliness with Libya and that at present there are no contacts with the Libyan leadership.

INTERNATIONAL BANK TO DOUBLE LOAN FOR 5 YEARS

NC271657 Cairo MENA in English 1625 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Washington, Jan 27 (MENA) -- The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development is ready to double its annual loans to Egypt from $300 million to $600 millions a year during the next five years, totalling $three billion.

This was stated here today by Dr. Kamal al-Janzuri, Egyptian minister of planning, who, together with the Egyptian ministers of economy and investment, has been canvassing the American Administration on economic subjects to be taken up by President Mubarak with President Reagan.

Dr al-Janzuri said the American side showed "full response" to the Egyptian requests.

He added that the American Administration was also amenable to Egypt's requests for flexibility in the utilization of American loans, for more American investments, and for more Egyptian exports to the United States,

TEXT OF MUBARAK INTERVIEW IN ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT

Part One

PM271127 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 22 Jan 83 p 3

["Part one" of Interview with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak by Muhammad Ma'ruf ash-Shaybani in Cairo -- date not given]

[Text] [Question] The Arabs miss Egypt and Egypt misses the Arabs. The condition the Arabs lay down for what has become known as Egypt's return is that the causes of its past "estrangement" must be removed. For its part, Egypt affirms that there is absolutely no going back on Camp David and that the peace treaty is a status quo that must be adhered to. How can the two positions be reconciled in order to achieve "Egypt's return"?

[Answer] Egypt is not such a small state that it will renege on its international commitments. It is true the Arabs have revolted against Camp David, but I do not think that all of them have revolted against it.

What have we done in Camp David?

Camp David has two frameworks. An Egyptian-Israeli framework under which we took back our land after concluding the treaty; the second framework is the comprehensive solution. The fact is that the term "Camp David" became an obsession. But the second framework is for a comprehensive solution. They [the Arabs] then revolted. Never mind. These were the circumstances then. But what other choice did they have? These two frameworks are the only two documents to which Israel is committed. Had we made full use of the two frameworks, we would have been able to bring pressure to bear on Israel and would have been in a better position. But when we say "no" that is music to Israel's ears -- that we should fail to come forward with a solution while it goes on building settlements which tomorrow will become a fait accompli.

What is next?

Let us talk frankly.

Israel will comply only with Camp David. Even Reagan's initiative is nothing but a development of Camp David. Such frankness offends them. But let us be realistic. We have taken back our land. Some of the Arabs -- don't ask me their names -- did not object to Camp David as such but they were forced to go along with the Arab situation. I know them all and I know what goes on in their minds, but I do not wish to talk about any of them.

So what is there in Camp David?

Had we made progress in the question of autonomy and had they helped us instead of attacking us, we would have progressed.

There should have been agreement that we disagree over a solution to the problem; that is, we should have agreed that there is disagreement between us, that they would adopt a hard line and that we would coordinate this disagreement. Had this been done we would have reached a much better solution and Israel would have been in an unenviable position.

Would not this have been better?

[Question] It is being said that one of the negative results of Camp David was that the Arabs lost the trump card of Egypt's recognition of Israel, the card which the Arabs should have exploited to the maximum in an future peace effort.

[Answer] How could they exploit it? How?

[Question] Recognition of Israel by the biggest Arab power puts the former in a stronger position in any negotiations with the Arabs.

[Answer] I would like to say something. Israel exists whether we like it or not and whether Egypt recognizes it or not. The two superpowers have recognized it and so has all the world. Frankly, Israel is indifferent to our position.

The United States helps it and the Soviet Union guarantees its existence. Are we the ones who are going to destroy it?

Had we as Arabs agreed with one another, our position would have been much better.

When will we agree as Arabs? I am not speaking about any particular state.

In all our history we have been on good terms with the Saudi Kingdom and with the Gulf states. I understand everything and for this reason I am not saying anything.

[Question] If you had been president of the Arab Republic of Egypt in November 1977, would you have visited Jerusalem and concluded the Camp David agreements?

[Answer] By God, every shaykh has his own creed. Why did Anwar as-Sadat visit Israel. After the October war there was the first disengagement of forces and then the second one. There was supposed to be a second disengagement of forces in Syria, but they blocked the road and were furious with us. Is being furious the right solution or taking realistic steps to solve the problem?

However, we agreed on the Geneva conference. We went to this Geneva conference in disagreement. Should we have one delegation? Should we agree on one delegation? We were about to explode. No, we should have different delegations. No, this will not do; we should go back to a single delegation.

The conference was to be held in Geneva in one hotel. No, they said, two hotels. On one floor. No, they said. Two floors.

In other words these were small procedural details. It was so bad that the United States in September 1977 sent a personal message to President Anwar as-Sadat. It was a handwritten message from President Carter saying that the Arab-Arab problem was more difficult than the Arab-Israeli problem.

I do not wish to cite the names of states here because I do not wish to embarrass anybody.

If you, the Arabs, cannot agree with one another, how will you agree on negotiations.

When Anwar as-Sadat held the Cairo conference in Mena House Hotel and we put up the Palestinian flag, they did not come. Had they come and exploited the opportunity, Israel would have sat under the Palestinian flag and the situation would have changed.

Well, what was he [As-Sadat] going to do?

He analyzed the situation from all angles. Israel was planning to adopt this hardline stand after the second disengagement. Its plan was to give away only half of Sinai and no more.

He took the initiative which shook the whole world.

Let us speak frankly: If the Arabs have spent billions of dollars to win world opinion over to our side, they would not have been able to achieve what this initiative achieved. The whole world sympathized with and has become familiar with the Palestine problem. It has learned that we are advocates of peace. We are not prepared to lose the public opinion that supports us as Arabs.

[Question] When we talk about Egypt's return to the Arabs I do not think it is enough to exchange ambassadors between Cairo and the other Arab capitals. There must be some unity of ranks, unity of tactics, and unity of course between Egypt and the Arab states. Could this happen?

[Answer] Well, never mind Egypt. For a start we want unity of stands and tactics among the other Arab states, let alone between them and Egypt. Does such a thing exist?

I believe that it does not exist. They are all fighting one another; they are devouring one another.

Once again, I would not like to cite the names of specific states.

Is this not true?

You can see how ugly the vituperations in the Arab world are. Yet you come and talk to me about unity of tactics and unity of stands. Don't let me open this subject. There is a feeling of bitterness and you will find that most of the Arabs feel this bitterness, yet say nothing.

I do not wish to talk about anybody because I have personal friends everywhere.

[Question] Mr President, Israel has invaded Lebanon and is still occupying a major part of its territory. It is refusing...

[Answer] (Interrupting, he said:) Is it only Israel that is occupying a great part of Lebanon?

[Question] Other parties are there as well and whose presence was the pretext for Israel's entry.

[Answer] No, permit me to disagree. Let us be realistic. This thing is real and it exists. Israel took part of Lebanon and Syria took another part. Is not Syria an Arab state?

[Question] The Americans say there is coordination between Syria and Israel in order to maintain the situation in Lebanon as it is and thus share the country between them.

[Answer] I said this the first day the war broke out.

I said that there was a "gentleman's" agreement between the two. Thank God, now (U.S. Secretary of State) Shultz is saying it.

Well, why did I say it? For your information, I heard as much from Syrian officials.

[Question] The Syrians?

[Answer] The Syrians and officials close to the Syrians. Let us be frank and clear without offending anybody. They are going to speak out, but I must tell you that this is a fact which I would not have liked to talk about.

The Israeli invasion of Lebanon was launched and the Israeli forces advanced until they came face to face with the Syrian forces in Al-Biqa'. Only 50 meters divided them. The Israeli forces continued their deployment and reached a point where they had the Syrian forces on their right flank and the sea on their left.

The Israeli forces continued advancing until they reached Beirut. War is a trick. They then turned and struck at the Syrian forces and their missiles.

Were not the Syrian forces there for the sake of Lebanese territorial integrity?

Well, I have heard from some of the brothers -- whose nationality I do not wish to disclose -- that there was an agreement between the Syrians and Israelis under which the Israelis would advance 40 km into Lebanon and would then stop. The situation would be like this: one part of Lebanon for Israel and one part for Syria. But the Jews went beyond this limit.

What bears out what I say is that many sources, despite their different character, confirm it.

What has Syria done?

I agree with you that probably they were unable to fight Israel; maybe they were. But they should have done something, especially the forces in Al-Biqa's, which numbered about 30,000, and the missile batteries which could not miss even a fly.

If a fly had flown over these missiles it would have been shot down. These missiles are more up to date than ours.

Along the borders, on the Israeli flank, there were three Syrian brigades.

Yet, most unfortunately at the Fes summit, in order to justify their attitude, they blamed the whole thing on Camp David. Camp David has become a clothes rack with many pegs and everyone hangs whatever he likes on it. One hangs his jackets, another his boots, and yet another his problem. Everybody hangs things on the Camp David clothes rack. They said if it were not for Egypt and Camp David Israel would not have invaded Lebanon.

Why?

They said that it is because Israel withdrew all its forces from the Egyptian border and then used them for fighting in Lebanon.

I was shocked when I heard such talk because the people who say this are military people and know full well that if they were Begin's place they would not fight in Lebanon while leaving the Egyptian border without any forces.

Nobody can guarantee anything in this world.

The Israeli forces on the Egyptian border remained unaffected; they withdrew from Sinai to beyond the buffer zone and are still there.

About 50 percent of the armored forces were on our border. I can give you their numbers. This is not speculation on our part. The information comes from satellites and the whole world and the Americans and the Russians know that.

Some 50 percent of the Israeli armored forces were on the Egyptian border from Rafah to the Negev. Some 40 percent of the land forces were on the Egyptian borders. The strategic reserve was moved close to us before the invasion operation was launched.

If Israel had taken its forces and lined them up inside Lebanon, there would not have been enough room for them; they would have covered Lebanon and more.

[Question] Which means that the Israelis still fear Egypt since they put 50 percent of their armored forces on its border despite the signing of a peace treaty.

[Answer] If I were in Israel's place... Yes, there is peace, but I know that the matter is not over. The Israelis are suspicious by nature.

[Question] Egypt withdrew its ambassador from Tel Aviv in protest against the invasion of Lebanon and the massacres there. You said on one occasion that "withdrawing the Egyptian ambassador is the least that can be done in the face of the massacres in Lebanon." What can Egypt do with Israel? That is to say, what "can" it do and not, of course, what it "cannot" possibly do.

[Answer] There is much that can be done. But usually in such a situation things must not be escalated to the point of no return.

The massacre would have been forgotten and there would have been no world opinion condemning the massacre and Israel if I had announced in a theatrical move the severance of relations with Israel. All the Arabs would have lost.

It would be as if I have given Israel a helping hand in front of the whole world to enable it to scramble out of the massacre's quagmire.

Israel would say: Look, this is Egypt to which we gave peace and to which we gave back its land. In return it has given us a few pieces of paper. The Israelis will be shouting: O America, the Arabs are not for peace. Then, of course, they would cite the clause in the PLO's charter and would say that the Arabs want to destroy Israel, and they would say many other things at which they are particularly adept in their propaganda. Then it would seem as if we had rescued Israel from the problem and the Arabs would be the losers. Afterward Israel would be in a position to be able to strike at any Arab country.

In other words, Israel will say the biggest Arab country has behaved in this manner and so there is no security. Come and see, they would say, the Egyptians have cheated us. They cheated us in order to take back their land; they want to fight Israel. They have agreed upon destroying Israel. The result will be that all the Arabs will be the losers.

If the severance of diplomatic relations with Israel would help to solve the problem, we would have thought differently, but it will never contribute to solving the problem. In other words Israel would benefit from the severance of relations more than we would.

[Question] You have held and still are holding official contacts with some Arab countries through Egyptian envoys, including Iraq, Jordan, Morocco, Lebanon, and the PLO, which gives the impression that these parties have begun to "understand" Egypt's stand. But all these contacts have not so far resulted in the return of a single Arab ambassador to Cairo. What do you think is lacking before this can be achieved.

[Answer] I am going to tell you something. First, there are contacts, both declared and undeclared.

There have been declared contacts with the PLO since the beginning of the war in Lebanon and they continue to this day.

Yes, there is contact with Iraq. As for the question of the return of ambassadors, I do not wish to comment on it. The return of the ambassador of any country depends on when this country deems it opportune to do so. The question of whether the ambassadors will return or not concerns the countries themselves. I do not wish to interfere on this.

[Question] Egyptian officials have often reiterated their famous saying that "Egypt did not break relations with the Arabs; rather, it was the Arabs who launched the boycott campaign. Therefore, they have to take the initiative to resume relations when they so wish." If we were to apply this principle we would find that Egypt must take the initiative to resume relations with five Arab countries with which it decided to sever diplomatic relations before they did so.

[Answer] Which are those?

[Question] The Confrontation and Steadfastness Front states when they strongly attacked President as-Sadat following his visit to Jerusalem. When he returned from the visit he broke relations with them before the Baghdad summit, which decided on the withdrawal of ambassadors from Cairo.

[Answer] Does this mean that the Steadfastness Front is the dynamo of the whole Arab world? Who are the front states?

[Question] Syria and...

[Answer] (Interrupting, he said:) Syria. May God forgive them. I am not going to talk about them because I have talked about them a lot. Also President al-Asad "was" my friend and I have friends among them.

[Question] "Was?"

[Answer] Yes, he was my friend. Their media and their radio insult me every night, but this does not bother me because I am totally unconcerned about what they say. I know what I am doing.

[Question] And Libya?

[Answer] By God, we do not trade insults with Libya. As for the question of resuming relations with it, it is up to them to resume them any time they wish.

[Question] Algeria?

[Answer] Egypt has helped Algeria throughout its history and during the French occupation. As a matter of fact, in 1956 we were viciously attacked because of them. Nobody can deny what Egypt has done for Algeria.

If ingratitude is shown here, then forgive me, I do not wish to comment on any ingratitude.

As for Iraq, when it was in a predicament it found nobody to help it except Egypt. I will not talk about the Gulf states because they are in a quite different situation.

But who helped Iraq? Syria?

Syria is cooperating with Iran against Iraq. Iraq is an Arab state and so are Syria and Libya. They are all Arab states and members of the Arab League. What about the joint defense pact? Have they forgotten it?

Is this proper? Is it proper that Syria should stand with Iran against its neighbor Iraq? It should have at least been a good mediator between them. It would have been better because this war is affecting the area and draining the people's resources. Does this please anybody? I wish to say no more.

We do what our conscience tells us to do in the public interest. Our brothers in the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front will realize that our line is constant and that we seek to serve the public interest. We never look for personal interests.

Egypt has offered great sacrifices for the sake of the Palestinian cause. Egypt has helped all the Arabs. Egypt used to be the richest country in the area. I am not saying this out of boastfulness; absolutely not. But Egypt embraced the Palestine problem from the outset and to this day it embraces it. We have exerted and are still exerting every effort possible.

This does not mean that I am ignoring the role of a country like Saudi Arabia. No, never. But we too are exerting great efforts. We have made sacrifices for the sake of this problem. The condition in which the Egyptian people find themselves after a succession of wars constitutes a sacrifice for the cause. Should not the Egyptian people be free to enjoy their lives? Egypt lost 100,000 dead, wounded, and disabled. Do these people have no families?

Some 100 billion Egyptian pounds were lost. You can figure out how much this money could have done for Egypt. Nevertheless, we are still supporting and continuing to support the cause.

[Question] Are you disappointed with what could be described as an Arab "rebuff" to Egypt's initiative to return to the Arabs?

[Answer] No, I was not disappointed. I am patient with out Arab brothers. As I said, I have many friends in the Arab countries. Every country has its own circumstances and for this reason this matter is left to each of them.

This lukewarmness did not affect me. In other words, I am not expecting them to come as soon as I bid them to. No, every country has its own circumstances. I do not wish to press or blame anybody. This is left to them when they find the opportune moment. Egypt welcomes them; Egypt is Arab and its gates are open to the Arab countries.

[Question] It is often said that there is a secret compact between Egypt and the Arab states to keep Egypt out of the Arab League at present in the interest of the cause on the grounds that "Egypt benefits the Arabs while outside the League more than it would when inside it" at least at present. Is this true?

[Answer] No, by God. Nobody came to an agreement with us in this regard.

[Question] Egyptian-Iraqi relations developed progressively and rapidly after Egypt responded to Iraq's military need in its war against Iran. Several Iraqi officials expressed the view that the exchange of ambassadors between the two countries is imminent. When do you expect this to take place, and are you hoping that Baghdad will play a role in encouraging other Arab countries to take a similar step? Will Egypt "return" to the Arabs through the Baghdad "window" exactly as had been the case with the decision "expelling" it?

[Answer] To be frank with you, I must say that I have not spoken with Iraq about this subject and I have asked nothing from it. We helped Iraq purely for fraternal Arab motives when we saw that it was in a predicament. Even if any other Arab country, God forbid, were to face a predicament, we would help it although we may not have relations with it.

Iraq needed arms and ammunition in order to defend itself. We are not giving arms to Iraq in order to strike at Iran and occupy its land. No, because we are against occupation of land by force. This is a known principle.

It is our wish that they should stop the war between them because Iraq is an Islamic and Arab state and Iran is an Islamic state. If we had relations with Iran, we would not have hesitated to throw all our weight into mediating so as to bring about the end of this war rather than stoke its fires.

We are helping Iraq out of friendship and fraternity regardless of whether or not we have relations with it. I know President Saddam Husayn well and I have had dealings with him several times. Despite the fact that Baghdad was the source of the boycott decision, we will, of course, forget this. But I am certainly not asking anything from or imposing anything on Iraq. Whether relations with Egypt will be restored or not is a matter for them in Iraq. I will not talk about it.

[Question] Looking at the justifications for a rapprochement between Baghdad and Cairo, one can see that they stem from Iraq's need for military aid and Egypt's response to that need. Relations have become very clear and cordial and the talk now about exchanging ambassadors has become quite natural despite the fact that the decision to expel Egypt was made at the Baghdad summit. My question is: Does this situation not indicate that the Arab countries place their own needs above their collective obligations when they need Egypt? Has Egypt, in the quest to return to the Arabs, taken this view into consideration?

[Answer] If any Arab country is in a predicament -- something that I do not wish to happen -- we will help it even though we may have no relations with it. But we do not do so just in order to ask it to restore relations with us. This is not my principle or my thinking. I have not asked anybody to restore relations with us.

Egypt is an Arab state. Is it not now being boycotted? Well, our Arab brothers from all the Arab countries come to Egypt and we go to their countries. As for national issues, we leave them to their own circumstances. But if any Arab country is in difficulty we will not abandon it regardless of the estrangement between us. We will not abandon it.

[Question] There is talk about a new alliance expected to come into being embodying Egypt, Jordan, and Iraq. Is this true?

[Answer] Alliance? We certainly do not seek alliances that divide the Arab world. All our life we have been advocating Arab solidarity.

[Question] Could not coordination between these countries reach the level of alliance?

[Answer] We continually discuss and coordinate with our Jordanian brothers regarding the problem. Sometimes we do the same with Morocco and other times we are in touch secretly with other Arab countries which we do not like to name. There is constant coordination between us and Iraq because of the war with Iran. We hope this war will end because we derive no malicious pleasure from anybody's plight. But establishment of an alliance in the Arab world is unacceptable. Is it possible that I and two or three other countries should make an alliance against the rest? No. There is only coordination regarding the problem.

[Question] Egypt's relations with Saudi Arabia during the past decade were characterized by warmth and full coordination. Do you expect such relations with Riyadh to be restored shortly? What do you expect from the Saudi role with regard to "Egypt's return"?

[Answer] The history of relations between Saudi Arabia and Egypt goes back a long time. Sometimes we are angry with one another and other times we are reconciled and make peace. This is our nature in the Arab area. But there are good relations between the two countries. If relations between them are restored they will become warmer. This is our nature. There is kinship between Saudi Arabia and Egypt regardless of our present stands.

Egypt and Saudi Arabia are in the same boat. We get angry but later we make up. Does one not get angry with one's brothers, children, and even father? This happens.

[Question] Are you angry with one another at present or not?

[Answer] We are not angry and I do not think that the Saudis are angry.

[Question] In other words you are at the stage of waiting and watching.

[Answer] Call it whatever you like. Don't press me to say whether it is left or right. [as published] But I have every respect and appreciation for our brothers in Saudi Arabia and the rest of the Arab countries.

[Question] Which Arab capitals are closest to Egypt at present, particularly in view of the secret contacts which you said are being held between you and these countries?

[Answer] All of them with the exception of our brothers in Syria. In Syria it is now their preoccupation, unfortunately -- and it saddens me to say this -- to use of the most abusive words on their radio. This method is something out of the past. It is of no use. Well, we too are capable of insulting them, but is this the done thing?

Abuse is an easy thing to engage in. We can bring someone who is adept at abuse and sit him in front of a microphone. We had something like this in the past but we have outgrown this. The world is becoming civilized; we are not supposed to use abusive language and refer to men and women in terms that should not be used by an Arab who has principles and values. In any case we do not heed abuse.

[Question] Do you expect Syria to take the initiative to improve relations?

[Answer] By God, I will have no objection if any Syrian official comes to us; I will welcome him warmly. Actually there is nothing personal. I must tell you that I still appreciate President Hafiz al-Asad because he has never said a bad word. In fact I avoid mentioning him. He was a flying officer with us in Anshas.

Once an American commentator asked about my view in Hafiz al-Asad. I said: No comment, because I do not wish to talk.

I will gladly welcome any Syrian. Indeed I will be happy because I want no hostility with anybody.

Part Two

PM271145 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 23 Jan 83 p 3

[Second and last part of interview with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak by Muhammad Ma'ruf ash-Shaybani in Cairo -- date not given]

[Text] [Question] At the Fes summit conference the Arabs spelled out the peace plan they wished to see implemented in the region. How do you assess the plan and the steps taken to back it up?

[Answer] The Fes resolutions were excellent. They represent an objective desired by all the Arabs, with us foremost among them. We hope all these objectives can be achieved. It will be the most glorious achievement in the history of mankind. This plan, however, needs power to set it in motion. That is essential.

The Reagan initiative has some positive aspects. We also have certain observations regarding this initiative. Reagan's is a power from which we must benefit because the United States is Israel's life artery. In the light of Fes we should capitalize on what is beneficial in Reagan's initiative by encouraging the U.S. President with a view to achieving as much as we can of the Fes objectives at the negotiating table. In my opinion it would be difficult without coming to the negotiating table.

[Question] According to some analysts, the ice between Cairo and Moscow is beginning to melt and the restoration of normal relations is slowly making progress. Is there anything new in this connection?

[Answer] It is only natural for us to have balanced relations with all, including the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union is a superpower and we cannot ignore it. We are a nonaligned state, exactly like India, which has special industrial and economic relations with the Soviet Union and at the same time relations with the United States.

[Question] Is there a dispute between you and the Soviet Union?

[Answer] No, there is no dispute.

[Question] You once said that the restoration of normal relations with Moscow depended on noninterference in Egypt's domestic affairs. When did that come about?

[Answer] I did indeed say it. There has been no interference recently. It is just a general principle in Egypt's foreign policy. The exchange of ambassadors is a matter of time.

[Question] On the other hand, how do you assess Egypt's relations with the United States? Has the latter honored its commitments to Egypt, whether on the arms delivery schedule or on the scale of the economic aid agreed?

[Answer] That part is going well and there is no disagreement on the timetables. There is no disagreement regarding the economic aspect, but we are requesting [nutalib] flexibility in the use of aid. A country like Israel receives its aid by check to be spent any way it likes. You know that there is bureaucracy in all governments and this holds up operations. In the beginning the aid was given for use in specified projects. If one wished to shift from one project to another, there would be some difficulty and the work would be hampered. Recently we agreed that it would be done on the basis of sectors, in the sense that in the industrial sector, for example, items could be moved around. We request that, like Israel, we have freedom to use the aid as we like.

[Question] This leads to the question of the nature of your imminent U.S. visit and the results you expect to achieve.

[Answer] Originally, I was scheduled to pay an official visit to Canada. When President Reagan heard about it, he invited me to visit Washington on the way. We will discuss economic relations, the future of the Arab issue, and future moves. What is holding everything up right now is the question of Palestinian-Jordanian agreement.

[Question] It seems that they have now reached agreement.

[Answer] Well, by God, if they do not reach agreement everything will be lost. If, after a Palestinian-Jordanian agreement is achieved, no progress is made between now and the end of the current year, it will mean that the issue will again be frozen because the United States will then plunge into the election whirlpool and every sincere effort to settle the crisis will come to a halt.

[Question] Will there be coordination between you and the Palestinians and Jordanians on the basis of the new agreement between them, to make use of your forthcoming U.S. visit?

[Answer] If they tell us that they want coordination, we will say welcome, we will talk. We will talk to the Americans but coordination is more useful. If we do not set the wheels in motion quickly it will be too late.

[Question] Do you still believe that the United States holds 100 percent of the cards for a settlement of the crisis in the region?

[Answer] Brother, that is political jargon. The United States has great influence on Israel. The very important point is that we Arabs cannot agree among ourselves. If we do not play the cards we hold, if we do not use them well and in unison, they will be unable to do anything even if they hold 900 percent of the cards. Am I right?

[Question] You have, on several occasions, urged Yasir 'Arafat to opt for mutual recognition between the PLO and Israel, which would facilitate official and direct contact with the United States. 'Arafat opposed the idea on the grounds that this was the last card in his hand and that if he wasted it without getting a basic price he would be naked. Israel also opposed the idea, and Israeli officials have said that "Israel does not need PLO recognition. Even if the PLO recognized us we would not recognize it." Are there any guarantees that a PLO recognition would lead to a fundamental Israeli concession that would solve the problem? Do you want 'Arafat to be "naked," as he says, by giving up the last card?

[Answer] I say that we should use the cards in our hands well. When one has a card, should he not use it at the right time rather than keep it until it rots and becomes useless? I believe that this is the right time. We cannot achieve anything without negotiations. We must sit at the negotiating table and exploit and benefit from the Reagan plan, because the United States is the only power capable of moving the wheel of peace forward. It is the power behind the Reagan plan. Any settlement plan must have a power behind it to fulfill it.

[Question] The late President Anwar as-Sadat promised that 1980 would mark the beginning of the end of Egypt's economic crisis and the solution of the problems impeding it. Have you set a date for the achievement of these objectives?

[Answer] He said it in 1976 or 1977 -- something like that. His expectations were that after peace there would be a big surge. I cannot set dates. I have drawn up a 5-year plan and we are proceeding seriously with the development process. We have many difficulties. Nobody expects the difficulties to be ironed out overnight. People will talk but we work. That is the maximum we can do. I do not think that anybody can do more. We see that we have problems, such as the sewage system, electricity, water, and housing. All these are accumulated problems which we can see. Am I to get Samson to solve them? No, we do our best. As long as we are on the right track and working, we cannot do more. We tell the people that anyone who has better solutions should come forward. Egypt belongs to the people, not to me or to a select group of people. Whoever has an alternative solution or a quicker way to solve a problem is welcome by me.

[Question] Would you welcome the return of Arab aid to enable Egypt to deal with these problems?

[Answer] I do not want to talk about this matter because I do not want our Arab brothers to think that we want them for their aid. I have said that Egypt is for the Arabs. Our gates are open to them. Whether we like it or not, accept it or not, Egypt is an Arab state and our Arab brothers have a right to Egypt.

[Question] You said on one occasion that "since 1948 Egypt has had political leaderships, but now it needs economic leadership, and that is what I intend to concentrate on." On more than one occasion you have stressed the importance of increasing production. To what extent has the Egyptian Government been successful in carrying out the tasks assigned to it in this respect?

[Answer] I believe that we are on the right track. Increasing production is the only way to change Egypt's face and to solve problems. That is why, if you notice, we now have a 5-year plan for the first time, for example. We have not had a 5-year plan since the sixties. We have been working on the plan for a whole year now and we will stick to it. Should there be a need to amend it at any time, it will be done by controlled constitutional means.

This year industry has, for the first time, achieved revenue of 700 million pounds. This is a big sum and it constitutes support for the public sector industries and for more production. Some machines in the public sector factories are 30 years old, so their products have suffered and cannot be exported. We must produce for our own consumption and also for export in order to get hard currency and have healthy balances of payment with other countries. In addition to the private sector and its investments, we are now activating the industrial section of the public sector in the interest of the country.

Gradually the production process will improve. We cannot just by pressing a button today increase production tomorrow. We also cannot say that the government has finally succeeded. It is a long journey still. The results will become known in 2 or 3 years. Economic problems cannot be solved overnight. Even the United States has economic crises, and Britain, Germany, France, and Italy have economic problems. Who does not have economic problems? Are the Arab states free of economic problems? They all have problems. Economics is a complex field in which results do not appear in 1 or 2 years.

[Question] With reference to the Egyptian strategy which was supposed to be an open-door strategy for producers, it has apparently become a consumer open-door policy. Were these negative aspects not taken into consideration?

[Answer] To have an open-door policy you are bound to have some disadvantages, but the important question is whether these disadvantages will continue. This line is supposed to be rationalized. In the beginning, when we first applied the open-door policy, everyone went for consumption. Now we are beginning to rationalize. Some people made enormous profits from consumer goods. The question is: Do we abandon it? No, we rationalize this open-door policy. We draw up a plan and say: These are the projects and industries needed by the country. The public sector should undertake what it can and, if the private sectors wants to join in, let it.

[Question] Observing your attitudes, the Arab citizen is filled with admiration, but at the same time some question marks crop up. You always give the impression that you are moving in all directions at home and abroad. When the Arab citizen compares you to the late Presidents Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir and Anwar as-Sadat, he notices that each of the two late presidents had a clear course and policy which won them friends or made them some enemies. Whenever you were asked about this in the past, you emphatically said: "I am not Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir and I am not Anwar as-Sadat. I am Husni Mubarak." Is this movement in every direction a part of your strategy or just tactics in the course of formulating something? Mr President, who are you?

[Answer] (laughing) I am the man sitting before you. Look, after the revolution Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir came to power. He had his own style in a certain period under certain circumstances. He adopted many measures and did many glorious things. He had friends and he had enemies. Then came Anwar as-Sadat. His circumstances were different from 'Abd an-Nasir's. The October war broke out and many changes occurred. I came in a different period. I have an economy to build, and to do that I must have stability. After I achieve stability and after I begin to improve the economy, if other changes are needed, I will carry them out. I benefit from the experiences of the first and second leaders and I begin a new period entirely different in its circumstances from the previous two. I am the type of person who does not rush things. I take my time and study. I do not have advisers appointed to become centers of power. I consult everyone because if I were to appoint five or six advisers around me you can be sure that if a matter was raised through other channels -- not through them -- there would be a problem and they would complicate the matter. Well, I prefer to have peace of mind. The country has many many scientists and experts. I can refer any subject to one group and then another group and another. This is a practical way until we have stability. I do not want to create centers of power. This is something I have witnessed and I do not want to see it happen again. If I had just three or four advisers, an economic project, for example, would have to go to the economic adviser and, if it did not, there would be a calamity. He would tell me: No, this and that are not right, and the project would not go through. I am not an economist. He would tell me that this project was harmful and destructive and, because I am not an economist, I would have to agree. So, why do this? The country is full of experts and scientists. The Arab world is full of our scientists and we have scientists in the United States and elsewhere. So why should I concentrate on just one or two people? Must I announce everything? I make studies without making announcements and I hold meetings or consult by telephone with a great many people. I like to work quietly.

[Question] I recently came across hints said to have been made by the assistant socialist prosecutor to the effect that a gang of capitalist monopolists who control the Egyptian economy had planned to corrupt the economy. What is your comment on these remarks? Are they true?

[Answer] I have no comment. I do not interfere with the judiciary, but we are aware of everything. I will not let off anyone who tampers with Egypt's economy. Opinions differ from one person to another. Furthermore, as far as I am concerned, anyone who wants to work in the economic field or in business and commerce is welcome to do so, but when it comes to politics, I say no, stick to economics; stick to your own field. You are welcome to work to improve national production, but I would say no if you wanted to depart from your own line. I do not like to give anyone room for departing from his own line.

[Question] From time to time certain economic forces in Egypt claim that economics is politics and that a political change should be introduced into economic activity.

[Answer] Say that to me in plain language.

[Question] I have read in a seminar report in AL-MUSAWWAR that 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman maintains that economics is politics and that it must have a political expression.

[Answer] 'Uthman is not a politician. He has done a lot of work in the country. You employ him in his field, which is business, and benefit from him. Anyone who produced energy and generated production in the country without taking the wrong course would be held in high esteem by me. I want to solve the economic problem but not at the expense of anything else. No, anyone working in the economic field should stick to that field. If he opted for politics, I would say no.

I do not think that 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman meant that. Sometimes, faced with the press, people will say anything, especially if they are not politicians.

[Question] Some foreign observers have taken the assistant socialist prosecutor's hints to mean that the aim of the monopolists who wanted to corrupt the Egyptian economy was to hit at President Mubarak's regime.

[Answer] No, no, no. I do not think that the assistant socialist prosecutor meant it that way. You see, those foreign correspondents just sit down and read papers and more papers. If you or I read papers as they do, we would collapse. I am here. Do not think that there is anything I am not aware of. I do not operate special organs for anything like that. I contact many people in a very broad base. I listen to people. When they say something wrong, I contact three or four others to find out the truth. I sometimes discover that someone who knows someone who knows me will feed him information so that he will pass it on to me in exaggerated form.

[Question] Ever since you assumed power your motto has been to fight corruption, but fighting corruption is not everything. There must be a plan for the next phase, the phase of building an integrated social structure -- a social strategy for the postcorruption period.

[Answer] Does corruption ever end anywhere in the world? We are trying. Whenever we discover corruption we bring it to justice. We do not cover up anything. However, ours is a socialist democratic system. This is the course we are following, and we do rectify it in this respect.

[Question] Naturally, anyone discovered to be involved in corruption would be brought to justice.

[Answer] Whoever he may be, by God. Some people claim that I detained 'Ismat as-Sadat to give him more popularity. By God, that thought never occurred to me. There were several complaints against 'Ismat as-Sadat. I personally do not bear grudges against anyone. I am an easy-going person, but all my life I have never liked violations, and I do not cover things up. If I saw you slipping onto a wrong course, I would draw your attention and advise you, but if you persisted there would be no other way but the way of the law. I cover up for nobody.

[Question] Some people claim that the 'Ismat [as-Sadat] case was detonated to pave the way for a clampdown on bigger and more dangerous corruption power centers.

[Answer] Is there corruption only in Egypt? There is corruption everywhere in the world. We perhaps have 6, 7, or 10 cases of corruption compared with hundreds of cases in other parts of the world. There is corruption everywhere in the world -- in the United States, Britain, France, and the Soviet Union.

[Question] But corruption there came after production activity, whereas in Egypt corruption preceded production activity.

[Answer] There is terrible corruption in countries where there is no production activity. Is there a rule in the developing countries that corruption should come before or after? Corruption is corruption. You will find corruption in even the poorest countries. There are states which spend their entire budget on three or four people while the rest of the people cannot find enough to eat. A certain head of state who once held a public referendum takes one-fourth of the budget and spends it on himself while his people do not have enough to eat.

[Question] And surely he won 99 percent of the votes in the referendum.

[Answer] (laughing) I do not know. Do not ask me about that. Corruption exists as a way of life even in the advanced countries. What is important is that we should not cover up or encourage corruption. Anyone proved to be corrupt is brought to justice.

[Question] Fifteen months after the emergency law was enforced following the assassination of the late president, do you believe that it is still absolutely necessary?

[Answer] The emergency law is used only to safeguard the country's security, if it is used at all. When you have a law in force and nothing happens, that is in the interest of the country's security. To this day this law has not been used against the public. Even those apprehended were apprehended under the ordinary laws. However, sometimes things happen against the country's security and against public security as a whole. It is not our intention to humiliate anybody. Well, we have freedom, and you can see what people are doing with it.

[Question] This leads us to what has been said about excesses by the Egyptian opposition and its press.

[Answer] Do you like what they are writing? Are these the values of Egypt? Why slander Cairo University? Ours is an Arab Islamic society. Why dig up the past? Do the people want to dig up the past or do they want development and production? What is the Cairo University affair? It occurred in 1978 and a verdict was issued in 1981. Why did they not speak out in January 1981?

[Question] Could the excesses of the opposition press have been provoked by what was published by the national press? To be more specific, do the Egyptian national press editors express the views of the political leadership or their own personal views?

[Answer] Not everything they write expresses the views of the political leadership, but I do not interfere. I do not interfere with the press in general. Ask them. None of them that seeks an interview with me is granted one. I tell them: You have the facts. Even when they are supposed to travel with me, I tell them: go ahead of me. Am I going to dictate to you? I do not dictate to anyone. You can see that ROSE AL-YUSUF and SABAH AL-KHAYR publish sometimes. Sometimes there is criticism in the national press. This is not a problem. I do not wish to restrict their freedom. Perhaps you do not believe me, but time will show that I do not interfere in this.

[Question] To go back on to the emergency law, are the 5 September 1981 events -- the arrests and other things -- likely to be repeated during your term of office?

[Answer] We enforce the law in every respect and we do not suppress any opinion. I hope it will never reach that point because that is not a solution. This is why from the beginning I have been trying to guide. I hold meetings with the leaders of the parties and I talk to them. I hold discussions with everyone. This method was not used before. I hold discussions with everyone because I do not want to leave them until they reach a point where we would be forced to take some measures. Taking measures is not a solution.

[Question] The Egyptian man in the street often wonders why President Mubarak has not yet appointed a vice president.

[Answer] In making a choice I take my time. I still have not reached a decision on this matter. When I do, I will announce it in the usual constitutional way in Egypt. I will not impose anybody. If I chose a vice president whom the people did not like, they will be free to elect or reject him as president later on. Under the Egyptian Constitution the vice president does not necessarily have to be president later on.

[Question] Will the vice president be appointed in 1983?

[Answer] I cannot tell you. I do not know myself.

[Question] What does 1983 have in store for Egypt, internally and externally?

[Answer] I hope in 1983 there will be a big boost for the Palestinian question; otherwise, we will lose much. I also hope the Iraqi-Iranian war will end because it is exhausting the people's resources and preventing development and progress.

Internally, I hope that the first part of the 5-year plan will be successfully implemented and production boosted as much as possible in the interest of the people's prosperity.

[Question] Will 1983 be the year of crucial decisions?

[Answer] What do you mean by crucial? Rumors are being spread about a change when there is no change. I am not an advocate of electric shocks.

[Question] People wonder why President Mubarak is still ruling with As-Sadat's men. Some expected a repeat of the 15 May [1971] operation to eliminate the centers of power.

[Answer] Who are As-Sadat's men? Let us be frank. Who are they? The prime minister? For your information, the prime is not one of As-Sadat's men. Furthermore, brother, last year there was a very considerable change. The method of work changed. The parties got their freedom. We meet and coordinate with party leaders. Many ministers have been changed. Prisoners and detainees have been released. Production has been boosted. All these things and more have been done, but do you want me to change everything? Do you want me to replace the entire generation? I dismiss anyone who goes wrong. Anyone who does not do well I tell to go, and peace be with him. This is my style. The method of electric shocks is futile now. If I were to apply it, there would never be stability in the country. There must be stability for production and development to flourish. Any misdirected blow would cause alarm. I am sailing a ship out of certain difficulties. After this is achieved I can introduce other measures if I want to, but in the meantime I will not allow any deviation.

VOL INTERVIEW WITH 'ALI ON LEBANESE CRISIS

NC261500 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1237 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Interview with Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali by Magi Farah; date and place not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question indistinct]

[Answer] Actually, the Israeli invasion of Lebanon has created new facts both on the official and popular levels in Egypt. This has naturally affected the relations between the two countries [Egypt and Israel] also on the official and popular levels. Therefore, the restoration of normal Egyptian-Israeli relations depends on Israel's position in the current negotiations with Lebanon. According to Egypt's concept, these negotiations should only result in one thing -- Lebanon's independence, sovereignty, and national unity. Therefore, the restoration of relations depends on this and the arriving at an agreement. Hence, the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Israel will depend on the working out of a timetable for the Israeli withdraw from Lebanon.

[Question] It seems that Israel is following the same plan it had followed with Egypt -- working out an agreement or ideas for an agreement and then it will consider the withdrawal and the timetable of a withdrawal from Lebanon. Through your experience with Israel in this sphere, how do you see Lebanon's interest now?

[Answer] I do not regard this as an Israeli method; it is rather the method of negotiations between two sides, whoever they may be.

It is noticed, without argument, that there is always exaggeration by the parties to the negotiations at the beginning of the negotiations, and these positions at the beginning of the negotiations must not be taken as final, and they must not be so. Through negotiations, it is possible to reach the (?desirable) solution which safeguards the interests of all the parties.

[Question] You have described the Israeli position as obstinate in a recent press interview. You said that it is an obstinate position. What developments have taken place in this position, especially after Philip Habib's visit to Egypt and briefing you on the latest developments?

[Answer] When I described the Israeli position as obstinate, I was considering these measures as contrary to the spirit of peace as laid down in the peace framework in 1978. For example, the continued building of settlements in the West Bank and Gaza and the intensification of this process was one trend. The other trend was the daily measures and actions in the West Bank and Gaza, such as the instructions issued by the Israeli chief of staff -- which are currently under investigation -- regarding the use of force to deter the Palestinian citizens in the West Bank and Gaza. We also noted the exaggerated Israeli demands regarding the security arrangements with Lebanon. All these are positions characterized by much intransigence or obstinacy, and hence the use of the term obstinacy.

[Question] Do you regard this obstinacy as a negotiating method by Israel?

[Answer] There is no doubt that Egypt has faced such positions before it turned to the peace process. In the past, Moshe Dayan used to state that if he was given the choice between Sharm ash-Shaykh and peace, he will choose Sharm ash-Shaykh. All these slogans or negotiating positions which must not be depended on. The important thing is to sit at the negotiations table and hold a discussion with a view to reaching what is logical.

[Question] Philip Habib's visit to Egypt is part of the efforts to push the wheel of negotiations forward, and so is his visit to Saudi Arabia. Is the Reagan peace plan, which President Mubarak has described as confirmation of Camp David, involved in these shuttle visits?

[Answer] Actually, Philip Habib's visit is to put Egypt, as a partner in peace in the area, in the picture regarding what is happening in the Lebanese crisis negotiations among Lebanon, Israel, and the United States. The visit is also within the framework of Habib's responsibility with which he was entrusted by Washington to push the efforts of the peaceful settlement both with regard to the Lebanese crisis and the Palestinian issue. Hence, the visits of Habib and our contacts with Habib.

[Question] In a previous statement you said that Israel won its war against the Palestinians in Lebanon militarily and lost politically. Can you define this loss and what its effects are on Israel?

[Answer] I believe that Israel's first loss was the belief in many countries of the world that Israel had begun to proceed toward peace. Then the invasion of Lebanon and the massacres there gave a completely opposite picture. This means that Israel must take measures to reaffirm its peaceful trend. In addition, we find that the massacres that Israel carried out have affected Israel's image to the point that the Israeli people rejected these massacres, as did all countries of the world. In that way Israel has lost.

Moreover, the manifestations of Israel's intransigence in the establishment of settlements and the practices against foreign professors at the Palestinian universities in the West Bank and Gaza as well as other practices caused Israel to lose on the political level. Certainly, the PLO received great sympathy from all countries of the world following these events. Also the Lebanese people gained sympathy from all countries of the world. Actually, there is an international desire for Lebanon to regain its sovereignty over its territory and national unity.

[Question] Egypt has some fears of Lebanon being partitioned, President Husni Mubarak having said there is a plot to partition Lebanon and there is some danger. In your view, which parties can benefit from such a partition and are these fears valid?

[Answer] Certain U.S. officials, no doubt, expressed such fears about a partition of Lebanon. These fears were also expressed before that. The parties that seek this partition pursue a policy characterized by sectarianism. There is no need to mention these parties. The seriousness of all parties about leaving Lebanon alone and taking their hands off will appear in the next few months and through the current negotiations among Israel, Lebanon, and the United States.

[Question] Mr Deputy Prime Minister, are you optimistic about these negotiations and Lebanon's future?

[Answer] I am always optimistic and prompted by the fact that there are international parties and big forces, which actually desire that Lebanon regain its freedom and independence. In addition, the Lebanese people, who have suffered for a long time, desire to wake up from the ordeal of the past 7 years. This desire by the Lebanese people has increased in the past 6 months.

[Question] You met President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil in Rome, and Butrus Ghali and Usamah al-Baz held talks in the Republican Palace in B'abda. Can this be considered as a return to relations between Egypt and Lebanon? How are Egypt's relations with Lebanon at present?

[Answer] We do not count much on formalities. Egypt's relations toward Lebanon are well known and the spirit, demonstrated by 66 Lebanese deputies toward the return of relations with Egypt, is sure indication that contacts and response between the two countries do exist. Certainly, Lebanon has assets in Egypt and, undoubtedly, Egypt has assets in Lebanon and among the Lebanese people and all their sects. These assets cannot be obliterated by the absence of an Egyptian ambassador in Lebanon or a Lebanese ambassador in Egypt.

[Question] In a statement to the AL-AHRAM AL-IQTISADI magazine Yasir 'Arafat said that abandoning the Camp David accords is considered a catastrophe for the Arab nation. [sentence as heard] 'Arafat called on Egypt to safeguard the Palestinians and to protect his back from the Zionist wolves and the Arab dogs, as he put it. Naturally, there is a turning point, first toward Egypt, which was isolated by the Arabs, and a public recognition of the Camp David accords and reconciliation between Israel and the PLO. What was your previous relationship with the PLO? Did it continue after the beginning of the Camp David accords? What are your present relations with the PLO?

[Answer] I do not rely on reported statements, but I rely on both the sound and picture, or on the sound or on the picture.

For this reason, this statement was denied by a PLO spokesman. This, however, does not absolutely preclude the fact that there are continual contacts with PLO officials. These contacts have intensified since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. These contacts are continuing and, undoubtedly, we help the PLO to make its decision after the Fes Arab summit and the trend of all Arab countries, including the PLO, toward peace. Therefore, our role is continuing with the PLO and with the other parties.

[Question] Egypt is interested in an agreement between Jordan and the Palestinians. Is there coordination with Egypt in this regard?

[Answer] The consultations among Egypt, Jordan, and the PLO are continuing. These consultations actually aim at adopting a position which will ultimately lead to the start of peace negotiations with Israel and to increasing the parties to the negotiations to include Jordan and the Palestinians. These consultations continued after the departure of the PLO from Beirut and still continue.

[Question] Is it possible to say that there are changes in Egypt's position toward the Arab states or in the Arab states' position toward Egypt after the assassination of President as-Sadat?

[Answer] Actually, the policy which President Husni Mubarak has followed since he assumed the presidency and which aims at cooling down the situation and not attacking any Arab state has been received with satisfaction in all Arab circles. In addition to some new elements in the situation, this policy led, for example, to the liberation of Sinai as a result of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. There is no doubt that this is an addition to the Arab nation's assets -- as a liberated Arab territory. This is on the one hand. On the other hand, the Arab states have discovered with certainty that Egypt has never abandoned its Arab commitments. In the autonomy negotiations -- in implementation of the framework for peace in the Middle East -- Egypt has not abandoned any of the Palestinians' rights. Egypt also has not abandoned any duty toward the Arab nation, beginning with Morocco and ending with Iraq. Therefore, as a result of all these positions, the picture has begun to be clear to the Arab nation and the Arab states -- Egypt's position is a principled, firm, and unchangeable position.

[Question] There is talk about an Egyptian-Lebanese-Israeli triangle as a U.S. base. What is your response to what is being said?

[Answer] This subject was raised before, and I really do not find any basis for it at all. As we know and as it has often been announced, the establishment of strategic relations between Egypt and Israel is rejected until an Arab-Israeli rapprochement is achieved -- and not merely an Egyptian-Israeli rapprochement. This is from one angle. From another angle, there is no mediation between Egypt and Lebanon to create an axis between the two. We are part of one Arab nation, joined by permanent common ties and interests. Therefore, such an axis does not exist and will not exist.

[Question] Thank you, Mr Deputy Prime Minister.

[Answer] Thank you very much.

ETHICS COURT HEARS 'ISMAT AS-SADAT CASE 25 JAN

NC251752 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1615 GMT 25 Jan 83

[Text] Cairo, 25 Jan (MENA) -- The Ethics Court under court president counselor Dr Ahmad Rif'at Khafajah today continued its trial of 'Ismat as-Sadat and the members of his family.

At the outset of the session, the court president announced that he had received a letter from former Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil stating that, with regard to what had been reiterated during the court's previous sessions about his having approved the allocation of two of the apartments owned by an insurance company to Jalal as-Sadat, he would like to clarify that Jalal had secured one of the two apartments before the decree appointing him prime minister was issued. As for the other apartment, Jalal as-Sadat had applied in the normal way to secure an apartment for his mother on the grounds that he was wounded in the October war and, on this basis, his application was approved.

The court then heard the witnesses' statements. Witness Qadri al-Laythi, chairman of the board of directors of war factory 36, said that Jalal as-Sadat used to secure permits for obtaining large quantities of electric cables and then he used to give these permits to other merchants, which means that he used to sell them on the black market.

The court also heard the testimonies of Firyal 'Abd al-Karim and her brother Faruq 'Abd al-Karim, who own a business in Suez. Both of them said that they had inherited two ships from their father in the Port of Suez and that 'Ismat as-Sadat and some of his partner merchants in Suez seized the two ships and sold their contents.

The court then heard the testimony of Muhammad Mahrus, sales director of the Tabata Company, which is owned by Jalal as-Sadat. He said that Jalal as-Sadat used to obtain large quantities of eggs from the Egyptian poultry company as well as other large quantities of eggs earmarked for sale to factional [fi'awiyah] societies and then sell them on the black market.

The court also heard the testimony of Muhammad 'Abdallah as-Sa'dani, former first under secretary in the Supply Ministry, who said that Tal'at as-Sadat had imported large quantities of unwholesome meats slaughtered contrary to Islamic law and that he also used to trade in contaminated [tomato] puree until a decision was issued by the prime minister and the supply minister banning dealings with him.

At the end of its approximately 6-hour sitting, the court decided to adjourn hearing the case until tomorrow morning, when it will hear the testimonies of the defense witnesses: Jamal Khalil, former headman of East Alexandria quarter; Hasan Isma'il, head of the earthenware and china company; Mustafa Nabil, chairman of the General Committee for Benevolent Aid; Musa Husni Mishay, employee in the railroad department; Mikha'il Nasif, chief accountant in the Tabata company; 'Abd al-Majid Amin, head of the (Al-Huthniyah) investigations section; and 'Atif Hasif, head of the Alexandria Port investigations.

SADDAM HUSAYN SAID READY TO MEET KHOMEYNI

JN271247 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Iraqi President Saddam Husayn expressed his readiness to go to Tehran and meet with Ayatollah Khomeyni if such a meeting would stop the bloodshed and end the Iraqi-Iranian war and if Khomeyni would not consider this to be a sin.

In a statement to the Spanish newspaper EL PAIS, the Iraqi president stressed that Iraq will crush the offensive which the Iranian Army is getting ready to launch against the Iraqi Maysan area during the next few days. He added that Khomeyni is following a wrong Islamic course and hoped that a wise leadership will return to Iran after Khomeyni's death.

The Iraqi president asserted that the USSR has resumed its shipments of spare parts for Iraqi weapons.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE NO 978

JN271731 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Communique No 978 issued by Armed Forces General command on 27 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our courageous armed forces maintained their splendid steadfastness and continued their daring operations against the forces of the grudge-bearing Khomeyniite clique. The results for last night and today were as follows:

1. Our forward units attacked an enemy troop concentration in the Maysan operational sector, killing 12 and wounding others. One of our combat patrols operating in the same sector succeeded in killing a number of enemy personnel and in capturing a quantity of serviceable weapons and hardware.

2. Since early this morning, our daring aircraft have been carrying out violent, intensive raids and strikes on the enemy's positions and troop concentrations in the areas opposite our forward units in the Maysan operational sectors and on military targets deep inside enemy territory in the southern operational sector. Our aircraft scored direct hits, inflicting grave losses in life and equipment.

Our fighter planes managed, during a dogfight with enemy aircraft, to down an enemy fighter plane at 1422 over the Ash-Shib region in the southern sector. The enemy plane was seen exploding in midair. All of our planes, praise God, returned safely to base.

3. Using various types of weapons, our forward units attacked a group of enemy personnel in front of our positions in the central operational sector, killing 11 and destroying 1 observation post. Also, one of our combat patrols succeeded in killing four enemy personnel and destroying one vehicle in the same sector.

4. One was killed and one heavy machinegun destroyed in the area east of Basra.

5. The vile Iranian regime today shelled Basra, Mandali, Khanaqin, and Zurbatiyah with artillery. The bestial enemy shelling left some houses damaged, one civilian dead, five civilians -- including a child -- wounded, and one car damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 January 1983

SHARON MEETS LEBANESE FORCES LEADERS IN BEIRUT

NC272227 Paris AFP in English 2214 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Beirut, Jan 27 (AFP) -- Israeli Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon came here today to meet leaders of the Lebanese Forces (right-wing Christian militia), a Western diplomatic source said.

No word was immediately available on the object of the talks.

AL-WAZZAN DENIES SYRIAN, PALESTINIAN OBSTACLES

NC280924 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has denied the existence of Syrian and Palestinian obstacles to achieving comprehensive withdrawals from Lebanon. He said that what guides the stand of the fraternal Syrians and Palestinians in this respect is the Israeli stand on the question of withdrawal.

He pointed out that Israel, by making specific requests, is in fact proposing to Lebanon situations and demands of various dimensions contrary to absolute Lebanese sovereignty and Lebanon's legitimate rights. He then reiterated what he had often declared -- that the Cairo agreement no longer exists now that all its basic factors, and its rationale and circumstances have vanished.

The prime minister said this in an interview he granted to the newspapers AL-BAYRAQ and weekly LA REVUE DE LIBAN published today. He denied that he has any intention of introducing new elements or expanding his present government. He also refused to call the expected administration reform operation a purging operation. He emphasized that Lebanon has an understanding with the Palestinians on the question of withdrawal and that the Palestinians have declared more than one positive stand which have been communicated to us through certain channels.

FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE 27 JAN

Discusses UN Role

NC271404 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] At a press conference which he held today at the Sursuq Museum, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim defined Lebanon's foreign policy and explained its dealings with all friendly and unfriendly states. He stressed that Lebanon will not attack anybody either by deed or word but that Lebanon is a free, independent, and sovereign state and strong through its democracy. The others, he said, must deal with it the same way.

Minister Salim emphasized that the war which has taken place in Lebanon was not a civil war but a war of others on the land of Lebanon. He said that nobody must depend on internal contradictions because there are no minorities in Lebanon, as it is said, but rather it is a country of majorities.

Referring to the current negotiations with Israel, the foreign minister stressed that there are no enmities between Lebanon and the states in the area. He pointed out that it is necessary to find an Israeli-Palestinian solution preparatory to the establishment of peace in the area. Minister Salim explained that the relations between Lebanon and Syria must be special and good regardless of the circumstances and considerations.

Dr Salim opened the conference by giving some clarifications about Lebanon's foreign policy. He asserted that there is a new outlook in Lebanon's foreign policy which is clearly reflected in domestic and external affairs. This new political outlook is attributed to the fact that Lebanon has a young, dynamic president, who assumed power after a tragic war. This president has decided to adopt specific and clear stands and a new outlook to the problems of Lebanon. The new foreign policy is based on a new mentality, objective results, and firm and fixed principles.

Salim added: The importance of the political role which Lebanon performs in international society lies in the fact that it is present in the whole world through the 7 million expatriates who are spread throughout the world.

The foreign minister said that Lebanon has decided to prove to the world that the future of the world lies in the United Nations and that Lebanon wants to work for the creation of a world government capable of giving this character -- the character of sovereignty -- to states through the United Nations. He added that Lebanon's relations with the United Nations are close and strong and that after its liberation, Lebanon will seek to restore the United Nations to its elevated position in the world.

Salim on Palestinian Issue

NC271756 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim held a press conference for foreign journalists at Sursuq Museum hall at noon today. Over 100 journalists representing European and American newspapers and news agencies, Director General of the Information Ministry Radwan Mawlawi, who presented Minister Salim to the newsmen; Foreign Ministry acting Secretary General 'Abd ar-Rahman as-Sulh, and press doyen Muhammad Ba'labakki attended the press conference.

Minister Salim will hold a press conference for Lebanese journalists at the same place on Thursday.

Minister Salim began his statement by defining Lebanon's new foreign policy, emphasizing that there is a new outlook in domestic and foreign policy. He said: The state now has a young president who takes initiatives, who has a visualization of the future Lebanon, and who is dedicating his efforts to rebuild Lebanon. He defined some of the principles of the new policy -- audacity in taking initiatives and adherence to the establishment of a new world system and to the UN principles.

Minister Salim said Lebanon is concerned about the future of mankind as well as about the conflict between the two superpowers. He said Lebanon is an Arab and independent state forever. He said: The Arab world supports us and we hope that all the world will support us. He added that Lebanon has been a leader in the Arab world and will continue to be so. He emphasized that Lebanon does not engage in any plot to change Arab conditions but it will play a basic role in developing the Arab systems. He also affirmed that Lebanon seeks to establish the strongest relations with Syria and, irrespective of its stand, Lebanon will not change its stand toward it.

Discussing the PLO, Minister Salim said Lebanon was the only state which gave this organization a chance to test a specific tactic but this tactic failed and led to the destruction of the Palestinian cause as well as of Lebanon. Therefore, an agreement has been reached that no armed Palestinian forces will remain on Lebanese land.

Minister Salim said: The whole world recognized the justness of the Palestinian cause. Lebanon cannot but side with justice. My view is that Israel itself does not oppose what is just. He added: Lebanon appreciates the right of every party to preserve its dignity but Lebanon's dignity comes first. He then enumerated the basis of Lebanese foreign policy. He said: First, Lebanon is a pluralistic state and has many cultural ties and second, Lebanon's policy is based on positive stands aimed at bringing about rapprochement among the various parties.

Supports Reagan Plan

NC280852 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 28 Jan 83

Minister Salim declared Lebanon's support for Reagan's peace plan and Lebanon's wagering on the U.S. initiative to solve the Lebanese crisis and achieve withdrawals. He held Israel at fault for its stand and conditions, saying that as Israel has the right to demand guarantees for its security, Lebanon too has the right to demand guarantees for its security after all that has befallen it.

Minister Salim said that Lebanon is entrenched in the area on all levels: on the cultural level; on the level of freedom and democracy; on the level of contributing to all cultures; on the level of its being a link between the Arab world and the rest of the world; on the level of having a free economy; on the level of what we have achieved -- almost without resources -- to become practically the most advanced state in the area until others destroyed us. On all levels, Lebanon is in the vanguard in the Arab world and it shall continue to be in the vanguard in the Arab area. Just as Athens has been a school for the Hellenic world, Lebanon is regarded as the school of the Arab world. For this reason, we shall bear a historical responsibility for setting up a new world system. We shall play a leading role in the Arab world policy. We have a clear visualization of the future of the Arab world and we shall play an effective role in it.

Minister Salim, who was speaking in English, said that Lebanon, during the present phase, has very special relations with the states participating in the multinational force. We are with President Reagan's initiative with regard to Lebanon. We expect great achievements for Lebanon from this initiative. He also lauded Saudi King Fahd's plan and Jordan's endeavors to achieve a just solution to the Palestinian issue.

AL-WAZZAN ASSESSES RESULTS OF NEGOTIATIONS

NC280702 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] At 1900 yesterday, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan chaired a meeting of the political operations room and the Lebanese negotiating delegation to assess the results of the tenth round of Lebanese-Israel-U.S. negotiations which were held in Qiryat Shemona yesterday.

After the meeting, Prime Minister al-Wazzan stated that a review was made of the details of the discussions that took place during the meetings of the subcommittees. He said: We briefed the negotiating delegation on general information and contacts and furnished it with directives which must be followed during the next round of talks in light of the contacts which will have taken place in this sphere.

It has been learned that the meetings which the subcommittees held yesterday produced nothing new. The Israeli side continued to adhere to its well-known proposals while Lebanon continued to be adamant on its stand.

Sources have pointed out that the progress that has been made in the formulation of the draft principle of halting hostile propaganda according to the Lebanese concept has not gone beyond the framework of general discussion, because Lebanon does not commit itself to any proposals [turuhat] except within the framework of the final agreement to be reached in the current negotiations and in a manner consistent with its national interests and territorial sovereignty.

On the question of liaison, the Lebanese delegation insisted that in the event of the establishment of an independent office for Israel is approved, this must be within the framework of the tripartite committee.

Meanwhile, government sources have scoffed at Israel's allegations that Lebanon is being subjected to Arab and international pressures. These sources emphasized that Lebanon's stands are inspired by its higher interests. Lebanon has charted the line it is to follow from the start of the negotiations. Everybody is aware of these principles and firm stands in relation to its sovereignty and interests and the preservation of its Arab relations.

SALAM MEETS AL-JUMAYYIL, MAKES STATEMENT

NC271357 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] After meeting with President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil today, [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam said that there was a long agenda to discuss, including, of course, the question of negotiations with Israel. Regarding negotiations with Israel he said: I support the stand his excellency the president and his government adopt. He added: We say that we have red lines beyond which we cannot go. Salam also emphasized the cohesion of the domestic stand.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES OFFICIALS; HALAWI COMMENTS

NC271424 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil was briefed by Minister of Economy, Trade, and Tourism Ibrahim Halawi today on the results of his visit to Morocco where he attended the meetings of the Jerusalem Committee.

Minister Halawi later said that the meetings were a victory for Lebanon because the committee fully and unreservedly supported Lebanon's stances and efforts to liberate its territory.

President al-Jumayyil then received Deputy 'Abdallah ar-Rasi. After the meeting, Deputy ar-Rasi was asked: Have you conveyed specific message to President Amin al-Jumayyil?

He replied: No, my meeting with his excellency the president was in fact that of a president meeting a deputy. With respect to the messages you are hinting at, these are in fact being constantly exchanged between President al-Jumayyil and [former] President Franjiyah. The discussions dealt with Lebanese affairs and topics and with northern Lebanon's affairs and topics and the 'Akkar district in particular.

I would like to affirm that I am very satisfied with my meeting with the president and very satisfied with the president's stances regarding all Lebanese situations and the negotiations in particular. I affirm that the Lebanese question is at present in very loyal hands.

Ar-Rasi was asked: This is not the first time you met with the president. You met with him last week. Were there other previous meetings which were not announced?

He replied: No, last week's meeting was the first I had with his excellency. The reasons for that involved compelling circumstances. Perhaps these circumstances will vanish and we will be able to come to Beirut by a much easier way than we did this time.

Asked when he anticipates that he said: His excellency the president is seeking to achieve this with all determination and through every possibility. We hope that this will materialize in the shortest possible time.

Asked whether the president gave him a message to political leaders in the north, Deputy ar-Rasi said: It is a message of greetings, and the contacts, as I said, are constantly taking place between them.

President al-Jumayyil later received Director General of the Internal Security Forces Hisham ash-Sha'ar.

PRIME MINISTER LEAVES FOR ZURICH 28 JANUARY

NC280920 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan this morning left Beirut for Zurich to participate in the international seminar on development and reconstruction. He was accompanied by chairman of the Development and Reconstruction Council, Dr Muhammad 'Atallah.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan will also visit Tunisia at the invitation of President Habib Bourguiba. He will then go to Rome to participate on Wednesday in the elevation of Patriarch Khuraysh as cardinal.

TWO GROUPS CLAIM RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXPLOSIONS

NC281410 Paris AFP in English 1355 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Beirut, Jan. 28 (AFP) -- At least 12 people were killed and around 20 injured in an explosion early today in a three-story building in Shtawrah, central Lebanon, said to house members of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the Phalangist Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Meanwhile, another blast today ripped through a building located near the offices of the pro-Palestinian al-Murabitun Nasserite Movement in the Mazra'a suburb of the Lebanese capital but caused no casualities, the radio added.

An anonymous caller later claimed responsibility for the two attacks on behalf of the Front for the Liberation of Lebanon from Foreigners, which in 1981 claimed responsibility for several attacks against Palestinian and Syrian forces in Lebanon.

But another anonymous caller, who said he belonged to the previously unknown Lebanese Cedar Force to Free Lebanon from Lebanese terrorists also claimed responsibility for the Beirut attack.

The Voice of Lebanon radio said the Shtawrah building contained an arms depot and was occupied by members of the Fatah, the main organisation in the umbrella PLO.

The three-storey building was razed to the ground, with rescue workers still combing he rubble for survivors, the radio added.

AL-BA'TH LINKS MUBARAK'S U.S. VISIT WITH 'PLOT'

JN280825 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 28 Jan 83

[From the press review]

[Text] The front page of today's newspaper AL-BA'TH says: It seems that the new U.S. plot has entered the implementation phase: The Iraqi regime no longer stipulates anything for proclaiming the establishment of a new alliance among the partners to the plot in the region. The Jordanian regime achieved its goal by making other Arab regime move in the direction of Israel even before it did so. The Baghdad ruler no longers cares about Iraq and its people, except to the extent it maintains his rule by any means possible regardless of the aims and results. Therefore, we see him feverishly following the steps of the Egyptian regime.

Everyone in the region knows it is the United States which checks or expedites the progress of the plot and that Husni Mubarak's visit to Washington is a step on the path paving the way for relinquishing the pan-Arab issue in a more collective manner than that of Camp David. If Saddam's call to his twin in treason, Husni Mubarak, to restore bilateral relations is no longer considered disgraceful to the regime of killers in Baghdad, there is no doubt that this regime's recognition of Israel and its security as voiced in Saddam's statements, will facilitate the implementation of the plot being concocted by the United States. Husni Mubarak will not give advice to the United States, but will get from it what is required of him. He will not sit with Reagan as a peer but as an agent meeting with his master. Therefore, he stresses the need to bolster military cooperation with the United States and raise the price of his plotting by an increase in aid to the collapsing Egyptian economy.

There is no doubt that by his direct participation in the war along side Saddam, Husni Mubarak will manage to implement the Jordanian condition for joining Camp David. This condition stipulates finding someone who can recognize Israel before Jordan. The Iraqi regime is in dire need of protection and hence the Egyptian regime has a role to play in the U.S. game. This is what Husni Mubarak is currently discussing in Washington. The U.S. defense secretary had earlier asked Mubarak to send Egyptian air units to Jordan and through its contacts with the Omani regime the Iraqi regime obtained military air support from the U.S. bases in Oman. To play the game of falsifying pan-Arab action, Saddam Husayn welcomed the Sudanese forces in Iraq.

Concluding, AL-BA'TH says: The plot is meant to be a comprehensive one. Therefore, Syria will be a target for the plotters. Hence the role of the pro-U.S. Arabs meets with that of Israel and this is what Washington seeks to achieve. Despite this feverish plotting, the United States still fears gambling against Syria, because Syria is aware of all that is taking place around it and because the United States realizes that its plans don't always work out.

PRESS ATTACKS MUBARAK VISIT, 'AGENT' 'ARAFAT

JN271806 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Excerpt] The Damascus dailies today launched an acrimonious campaign against Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Morocco, and Yasir 'Arafat.

Commenting on the Egyptian president's visit to the United States, the Syrian dailies said that Mubarak is weaving a grave plot with U.S. officials. Mubarak, the papers added, is conveying the support of some Arab sides for the U.S. plan.

The papers recalled recent statements made by Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, in which he pointed out that the contacts among Cairo, Amman, and the PLO give rise to optimism.

On 'Arafat's message to the Egyptian President last Sunday, prior to the latter's departure for Washington, the Syrian papers affirmed that the message outlines Egyptian-Palestinian coordination within the framework of the U.S. peace plan.

The Syrian dailies continued for the fourth day running to attack Yasir 'Arafat's meeting with Israeli peace figures. The Damascus newspaper ATH-THAWRAH described those who establish suspect relations with the Zionist enemy as agents.

TISHRIN, on the other hand, focused its attack on King Husayn, who needs Palestinian authorization to join the Camp David scheme.

EARLY WARNING STATIONS, REAGAN PLANS CRITICIZED

JN262148 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1720 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Palestine broadcast -- unattributed commentary]

[Text] Some Arabs are helplessly waiting for a sign from Washington that President Reagan still remembers his plan for a settlement of the so-called Middle East crisis. It goes without saying that President Reagan has not forgotten his plan. Proof of this is Philip Habib's role in Lebanon. The Reagan plan stipulates moving on to Jordan, after the Lebanese situation has been rearranged based on the Israeli invasion.

One report about the negotiations on the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon says that the Americans will be present in southern Lebanon to supervise the proposed early warning stations there, similar to those in the Sinai.

Hence, the Israeli soldier does not withdraw from any spot until he can guarantee that a U.S. soldier will replace him there. Furthermore, since the United States and Israel are allies, one sees that the United States is trying to lessen the burden on Israel, not end Israel's aggression. What the United States and Israel did in the Sinai and are trying to do now in southern Lebanon, they will apply to Jordan in the future. So, since Israel insists that its forces remain along the River Jordan together with its settlements, its first demand in the negotiations will be for early warning stations on the Jordan east bank and for Americans to run these stations.

Accordingly, a direct U.S. military presence in the region is being projected through early warning stations and the multinational forces. The Israeli occupation becomes a prelude to the American occupation. The result is that the Arabs' problems with occupation and occupying forces will be exacerbated and become more complicated.

Is this what some Arabs are anticipating from Reagan and his plan? Is this why they are urging Reagan to accelerate his settlement plan? Is their dream and objective to build a wall between them and Palestine so they can forget that it ever existed and that it is still Arab land? Do they really believe that such a wall of electronic installations and early warning stations will stand in the face of the Zionist expansionist wave, or do they really think that the early warning stations set up by Israel's allies will work in only one direction? These stations and installations are created to work against the Arabs' struggle to restore their rights and will never be used against the Zionists' covetous expansionist designs. The proof of all this is that U.S. military supplies to Israel have not decreased at a time when there are more early warning stations run by the Americans themselves. This only further confirms the Zionists' expansionist designs and U.S. collusion in them.

10TH ROUND OF TALKS WITH LEBANON ENDS

Statement Issued

NC271537 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1443 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Dispatch by Lebanese Information Ministry delegation in Qiryat Shemona]

[Text] The subcommittees ended their second session of the 10th round of talks a short while ago. The Lebanese military spokesman, Major Tarabay, issued a statement drafted by the three delegations. The following is the text of the statement.

During the meetings of the three subcommittees today, we discussed in detail matters related to the framework of mutual relations, withdrawals, and security arrangements and the question of possible guarantees. Marked progress was made on the question of liaison and on halting hostile propaganda. It was agreed that the next plenary session will be held in Khaldah and that the meetings of the subcommittees will convene next Tuesday and Wednesday in Netanya [Israel]. The subcommittees will meet the following week in Lebanon.

'Progress Made'

TA271524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1510 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] There was progress in the talks in Qiryat Shemona today and agreement was reached on meetings of the subcommittees and on the establishment of joint liaison offices. It also was decided to cut hostile propaganda. Here is a report by our correspondent Roni Daniyel from Qiryat Shemona:

[Begin recording] [Daniyel] Ironically, right at the close of a brief day of deliberations, which included an extended tour of Kibbutz Kefar Gil'adi, progress was made and agreements were obtained, as Foreign Ministry spokesman Avi Pazner reported:

[Pazner] Today, we discussed in great detail, in the subcommittee forum, the subjects pertaining to the framework of bilateral relations, the withdrawal and security arrangements, as well as the question of possible guarantees. Progress was made today particularly in regard to the matter of the liaison offices and ending hostile propaganda. It was agreed that the next plenary session will be held in Khaldah on Monday and that the meetings of the subcommittees will be held next Tuesday and Wednesday in Netanya. A week later, the subcommittees will meet in Lebanon.

[Daniyel] I have learned that the head of the Lebanese delegation, Antoine Fattal, asked to avoid landing in Tel Aviv, so it was consequently decided to prepare a helicopter landing pad in Netanya. If there are no difficulties, and barring unforeseen changes, the subcommittees' talks will begin next Tuesday, and the very Lebanese agreement to this has been mentioned by various spokesman here as progress that would also be conducive to a more relaxed atmosphere, and more importantly, toward speeding up the deliberation.

This is all from Qiryat Shemona. [end recording]

Further Report

TA271826 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] In the negotiations today, the Israeli and Lebanese delegations agreed in principle to the idea of an Israeli liaison office in the Beirut area. The Lebanese will have the same option in Israel. Reporter David Essing adds, however, that this is on condition of the respective government's approval. The two sides also found common ground during negotiations to end hostile propaganda.

In the military subcommittee, Israel's chief delegate, Major General Avraham Tamir, explained Israel's position on the security arrangements in the 45-km security zone.

Our reporter adds that at the beginning of the negotiations today, Israeli delegation head David Kimche expressed disappointment about what he termed the hardening of the Lebanese position at the last session in Khaldah. Kimche said the impression was that the Lebanese were not negotiating seriously but trying to gain time. He suggested that this might be due to Saudi or Syrian pressure. Kimche appealed to the Lebanese to adopt a more positive attitude.

Lebanese delegate Antoine Fattal denied Kimche's charges and complained about recent Israeli declarations. However, our reporter adds that in the subsequent discussions today the atmosphere took a turn for the better with the talks being described as business-like.

SHARON 'SECRETLY' VISITS LEBANON, IDF UNITS

TA280543 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon secretly visited Lebanon yesterday. He visited the grave of late President Bashir al-Jumayyil and met with his widow. He also met with high-ranking figures and visited IDF units.

In separate interviews in YEDI'OT AHARONOT and MA'ARIV, Sharon said that he would prefer that the Syrians also have warning stations in Lebanon to deny Israel the possibility of maintaining such stations. He told YEDI'OT AHARONOT that reports that he had suggested in the Cabinet carrying out a military action against Syria's new missiles is false. In his view, while it is possible to achieve a peace treaty with Lebanon with U.S. help, it would also be possible to reach a settlement without U.S. intervention.

In the MA'ARIV interview, Sharon called on the Soviets to open a dialogue with Israel since the two countries have something to say to each other.

More on Visit

TA280547 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon returned after midnight from a visit to Beirut where he met with Christian leaders and heads of the Lebanese forces. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal is in the studio:

[Tal -- live] The negotiations with Lebanon on the security arrangements and normalization were the subjects that Sharon dealt with last night during his secret visit to Beirut. In an effort to make progress on these matters, Sharon met with heads of the Christian camp and the heads of the Lebanese Forces. He left for the visit yesterday at about noon. On his way he examined the security problems in southern Lebanon, but he way he examined the security problems in southern Lebanon, but he spent most of the time until midnight in Beirut and its outskirts.

He visited Bikfayya village, Al-Jumayyil's village, and laid a wreath on the grave of the late President Bashir al-Jumayyil and met with his widow, Solange, who has become the Phalangists' spiritual leader. She was also present at the meeting between Sharon and her husband a day before his murder. At that meeting it had been agreed that the negotiations between Lebanon and Israel would begin 15 September.

It is nearly certain that Sharon will report complete details about his visit to Lebanon and his talks in Beirut at the Cabinet session on Sunday.

DRAPER, MARINES, DRORI MEET TO RESOLVE PROBLEMS

TA280949 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0923 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] A short while ago the meeting between Commander of the Northern Command Major General Amir Drori, Ambassador Morris Draper, and the commander of the U.S. Marines, General [as heard] Stokes ended. Our correspondent in Lebanon Alon Diskin reports that at the meeting, which lasted for about 90 minutes, the two sides' differences were straightened out.

It was agreed that regular phone contacts would be maintained to prevent future misunderstandings, friction, and incidents between IDF soldiers and the U.S. Marines. The sides also again fixed the railroad track as the border between the forces. Representatives of the two sides expressed the hope that the regular phone contacts would prevent additional friction. At the same time, the Americans made it clear that they are unwilling to carry out searches or pursue terrorists in their area and stressed that this was not their role in the area.

Our correspondent notes that the meeting, held at the Foreign Ministry's representation in Beirut, was conducted in a good and friendly atmosphere.

IDF COMMANDER: MARINES COULD STOP TERRORISTS

TA280702 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] The commander of the IDF forces in the Beirut area contends that the U.S. Marines could curb terrorist activity from the area under their control if they wanted to do so. He reemphasized that the dividing line between the IDF and the Marines is the old railroad track east of Beirut.

EYTAN COMMENTS ON CHOICE OF 45-KM LINE

TA271541 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1515 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Israel is not trying to force peace upon Lebanon. Peace is more important for the Lebanese than it is to Israel, because this would make it possible for the legal administration there to control its country, Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Refa'el Eytan said today to students from the Kadoory agricultural school. Here is a report by our correspondent Haviva Roger:

[Begin recording] [Roger] With the missions set for the army in the Peace for Galilee Operation, the 45-km line was never mentioned, Lt Gen Eytan said. If we had remained within those bounds, he said, with the terrorist leader still in Beirut and the Syrians on the Beirut-Damascus road, the negotiations would have been harmed.

[Eytan] Would those have been negotiations? They would not have been anything, just as there were no negotiations after the Al-Litani operation. When was the issue of the 45-km line vis-a-vis the Syrians ever raised in regard to the army? When there was intervention for reaching a cease-fire.

At that time, I happened to be exactly on that front and the prime minister called on the telephone and told me: Pressure is being applied, requests are being made, and discussions are underway for a cease-fire. Have we crossed the 40- or 45-km line? I said: We are on that line, the 45-km line. Then the cease-fire was decided upon. This cease-fire was violated. We knew this. We are familiar with the Arabs' nature, and know how they behave. We knew that if a cease-fire were declared at 1200, then for sure either in the afternoon or the next morning fire would resume. We said, and announced publicly, that there are no rules and will be no rules. If anyone violates the cease-fire we will act, not according to regulations.

[Roger] On the clashes between the Druze and the Christians in the Ash-Shuf hills, the chief of staff reiterated that at the outset of the war the IDF never thought such a battle would ensue. This is their internal problem and they must solve it for themselves, Lt Gen Eytan said. We must only make sure that they do not fire at each other wherever we are.

The chief of staff also addressed himself to the problem of the Israeli prisoners held by the terrorists and the Syrians. [end recording]

WRITTEN REAGAN DOCUMENT TO HUSAYN RUMORED

TA261919 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] A U.S. source today told Egyptian jouralists that President Reagan had given King Husayn a written commitment that the West Bank and the Gaza Strip would in a peace agreement move under Arab sovereignty. There remarks were made on the eve of President Mubarak's arrival in Washington this evening.

Our correspondent on Arab affairs reports that many rumors have spread including commitments in the event Jordan joined the negotiations.

The newspaper AL-KHALIJ published in Bahrain reports that the document includes seven points, including an undertaking that the United States will act toward stopping settlements. According to this version, Reagan warned Husayn that if Jordan did not join the talks Washington would contemplate other action.

Ne'eman on Report

TA262050 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2045 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Tel Aviv, 26 Jan (ITIM) -- The Tehiya Movement leader, Science and Development Minister Professor Yuval Ne'eman, said this evening that if the report from Cairo that President Reagan had given King Husayn a document in which he promises that Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza would be under Jordanian sovereignty is correct, then in so doing the United States has put the lid on the Camp David process, and there is room for immediate application of Israeli sovereignty to these regions.

Professor Ne'eman, who was speaking at a meeting of Tehiya activists in Tel Aviv, noted that all of our concessions in the Sinai notwithstanding, the United States still tries to acquire Arab friendship at our expense even now. All in all, the United States is selling the bear's skin before it catches it. It is not the United States that controls the Eretz Yisra'el territory, and if both the Cabinet and the people of Israel demonstrate a firm and adamant political position and step up the settlement effort, they could, in 2 years, reach a situation where there will no longer be a physical possibility of tearing off any part of Eretz Yisra'el. "Our security would be guaranteed even if elements who are prepared to carry out a territorial compromise reach power," he said.

MORE ON SHARON'S COMMENTS TO KNESSET COMMITTEE

TA261440 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon has said that the Reagan plan might create in Nabulus a situation similar to that existing in West Beirut and in such a case Israel's hands would be tied when it set out to deal with terrorism. He added that the United States is seeking to reduce as much as possible Israel's achievements in the war in Lebanon and that it has been exerting pressure on Beirut not to advance too rapidly in the negotiations with Israel.

Minister Sharon said that the United States is of the opinion that rapid progress in the negotiations with Lebanon would hinder efforts toward reaching a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East. The defense minister was speaking to members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports that MK Shim'on Peres asked the defense minister whether, in his opinion, the United States was an enemy of Israel. Sharon replied: God forbid, it is just making a mistake.

Minister Sharon explained that the achievement of security arrangements in Lebanon are of a higher priority to us than the demand for the evacuation of the foreign forces. Israel demands that three to five early warning stations should be established in Lebanon but the number of soldiers in these stations would be far less than 700.

Further Report

TA261714 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1510 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Report by Knesset correspondent Razi Barqay -- recorded]

[Text] The United States is taking action to limit to the minimum possible Israel's achievements in the war in Lebanon and about a week ago it pressured Beirut not to make too swift progress in the negotiations with Israel lest such a development hamper the efforts to reach a comprehensive arrangement here.

These were pretty harsh statements the defense minister made today about the United States at the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. He added that one could hardly expect Lebanon to show a more amenable position toward us than the Americans.

In an interjection, Shim'on Peres asked: Do you think the United States is our enemy? Sharon replied: God forbid, it is simply erring.

I don't suspect the U.S. Marines, the defense minister said, of allowing the terrorists to operate from inside Lebanon unimpeded. But, as he put it, because of attempts from higher up, recently a trend could be discerned to blow up each incident involving the IDF and the Marine forces beyond any proportion.

Some other phrases from Sharon's remarks are: The security arrangements we are demanding in Lebanon are more important for us than the removal of the foreign forces. We are talking about between three and five control stations. They will not be manned by 750 soldiers, as the newspapers claim, however.

As for his visit to Zaire, Sharon said that last year Zaire purchased arms from us for $16 million and paid all of its debts duly.

Shim'on Peres lashed out against the insistency on the early warning stations and the removal of the PLO first. These demands are not required by our immediate security, Peres said. Likud member Beni Shalita replied: The opposition is proposing evil suggestions which, if accepted, would cause Lebanon to once again be filled with terrorists.

The situation in the territories also was touched upon by the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee: the situation in Bi'r Zayt and the reports alleging that Sharon said that the balls of the rioters in the West Bank must be cut off. Sharon totally denied that.

Regarding the settlement question, the defense minister said: It is only because of winter and the rains that one cannot now hear the sound of hammers and the bulldozers in Judaea and Samaria. The Israeli Government has the authroity to decide on settlements. It does not accept the U.S. position on this matter, and here, too, we tell our friends in Washington: You are mistaken.

This is Razi Barqay in the Knesset building.

SCHIFFER ASSESSES NEGOTIATIONS WITH LEBANON

TA271316 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1115 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Interview with political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer by 'Oded Ben-'Ami in the Jerusalem studio -- live]

[Text] [Question] The talks are continuing, as the poet wrote many years ago. This creates the impression that -- at least regarding developments in Qiryat Shemona, in the telephone calls to B'abda and to Jerusalem as our correspondent reported -- that some kind of negotiations are being conducted. However, from Washington, as you reported this morining, dissatisfaction is being expressed. Why is there dissatisfaction regarding events here?

[Answer] First, concerning the talks, perhaps we should mention that the autonomy talks lasted for about 2 years and nothing happened in them. Perhaps this also indicates the dissatisfaction felt in broad U.S. circles, in the media, and among the policymakers that nothing is, in fact, happening. This morning, THE NEW YORK TIMES in a lead editorial called for Henry Kissinger's return to conduct the negotiations over the peace process in the region because, in the paper's view, Philip Habib is trapped in the Middle East vortex. Here in Jerusalem also, it is thought that Habib has not succeeded in finding the tools to bring progress in the negotiations.

[Question] Does the dissatisfaction concern the man, Philip Habib -- that Henry Kissinger can do the job better -- or is it over the proposals, over what Israel is willing to concede and what it demands?

[Answer] In my opinion, there is overall dissatisfaction, both over Habib's ability to tie the ends together and over the U.S. proposals. In Jerusalem too, political elements will tell you that Habib sat here for a week and pressured the holy cow called Israel, but, in fact, brought no bait that would induce the policymakers in Jerusalem to give up the positions they presented in the negotiations over the settlement with Lebanon. For example, Habib brought no hint that the Syrians or the PLO are, indeed, willing to leave Lebanon. The assessment in Jerusalem is that had Habib brought any serious indication that there is a chance that the Syrians and the PLO would leave lebanon soon, Israel would give up some of its demands on the security arrangements. When you press the political elements about what they mean, they will tell you that even on the metter of the warning stations, over which Israel and the United States are now at odds, a compromise could be found to over come this dispute. However, in the meantime, the United States, Philip Habib, has nothing.

Generally, it seems that the U.S. Administration will not succeed in exacting the price it thought it would exact from Saudi Arabia for example. The United States supplied the AWACS to Saudi Arabia, and in the scenario of political contacts, Saudi Arabia was supposed to pressure Syria and the PLO to withdraw from Lebanon. But Saudi Arabia is not cooperating, although Habib returned from there and reported to the prime minister that they would. In the meantime, they are not fulfilling their role; hence, the general dissatisfaction.

[Question] On this dissatisfaction being expressed there, which will apparently give rise to the next move or influence its planning: What exactly is the U.S. plan? How does it compare to the Israeli plan?

[Answer] First, there is a U.S. plan. Contrary to what Israeli spokesmen tried to present during the past weeks, that the United States had, in fact, accepted the plan presented by Foreign Minsiter Yitzhaq Shamir -- the plan for the arrangements in Lebanon that had been approved by the Cabinet and concerning which the United States was said to have several comments -- it emerges that there is a U.S. plan and that what was taken to be U.S. acceptance was only polite words that we heard. However, it has its own concepts, the main points of which are that Israel will not leave the war in the Lebanon, will not force a country with as fragile and sensitive a government as Lebanon to sign a peace agreement with it because this will lead to the complete undermining of its position in the Arab world and its government will be undermined. The second main point is that Israel cannot force security arrangements on Lebanon that will cause Syria to ask for the same things; and the forces will not leave.

Therefore, Habib presented here what is called in diplomatic jargon a nonpaper [in English] -- this is an unofficial document -- expressing the U.S. concept. According to this concept, Israel will not be able to establish warning stations in Lebanon. The United States proposes that it operate these stations. Israel can continue flights in Lebanese airspace and sea patrols because these were done previously also, and these things are accepted by the world. The United States proposes that a committee be set up to discuss the framework of future peace relations between Israel and Lebanon, but this committee, according to U.S. hints, will be along the lines of the armistice committees. Of course, Israel opposes all these things. In the meantime, the two plans are squared off and each makes the other meaningless.

[Question] In the meantime, I understand that Lebanon is succumbing nicely, as they say, to the U.S. pressure or dictate. The United States is, in fact, the one leading the talks. But when one speaks of the warning stations and about who will man them, this is very far, for example, from the technical details. For example, Israel's apparent stubbornness to hold the subcommittee talks in Herzliyya and not in Nahariyya. Why?

[Answer] Along with the contacts with the United States -- and the assessment is that what will be agreed with the United States will be what is agreed on with Lebanon -- parallel to this scenario are the talks being held in Qiryat Shemona and Khaldah. As we heard, committees are convening, coming and going, and we will surely report details on these discussions, though essentially they are unimportant; similarly the matter of where the subcommittees meet -- in Herzliyya or Nahariyya.

A joke is told about this: Why are the Lebanese unwilling to hold the talks at the Sharon Hotel in Herzliyya. The answer: One Sharon is enough for us, and we don't need a hotel named after him.

However, the main reason for the Lebanese opposition to hold the talks in Herzliyya is that they want to stay very close to the border. Nahariyya, Rosh Haniqrah, and Qiryat Shemona are acceptable. Perhaps to demonstrate by this that there is still no normalization in the two countries' relations, and the talks are being conducted, as though they were a follow up to the discussions of the armistice committees.

SCHIFFER OUTLINES U.S. PLAN FOR SETTLEMENT

TA270556 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Jerusalem is waiting for Philip Habib's consultations in Washington to end and it is hoped that they will rescue the negotiations between Israel and Lebanon from the current deadlock. During his visit to Jerusalem, Habib made detailed proposals for a settlement in Lebanon, but these were rejected by the prime minister and the foreign and defense ministers. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer discloses this morning the contents of the document Habib submitted and considers its significance:

[Schiffer -- live] The U.S. ideas in fact render Israel's proposals meaningless. It now emerges that all the statements by government spokesmen here to the effect that the United States had an understanding attitude toward the Israeli plan for the settlement in Lebanon were groundless. Polite words were interpreted as acceptance. The U.S. proposals, contained in a document called a nonpaper in diplomatic jargon, are as follows:

The withdrawal of forces: It is demanded that Israel withdraw from Lebanon simultaneously with all the other foreign forces, including the PLO, and not as Israel has proposed, after the withdrawal of the terrorist organizations.

Security arrangements: The United States rejects the establishment of Israeli warning stations in Lebanon, and proposes stations operated by a third party. The United States favors the continuation of aerial and sea patrols. It also suggests increasing the presence of UNIFIL troops or having another international force in the security zones. As is known, Israel rejects this idea.

The United States agrees that there be restrictions on the introduction of certain arms in the areas near the border. It proposes that Major Sa'd Haddad's forces be integrated in the Lebanese Army and that they not have any special status.

Normalization: As a high-ranking U.S. source said this week, the United States will not allow Lebanon to commit suicide by making peace with Israel. Therefore, the mutual relations proposed by the United States are more of a framework for the future than real content. While Israel proposes setting up liaison offices, the Americans propose establishing a special committee as a followup to the armistice committee to discuss the framework of peace relations between the two countries, as the U.S. proposal puts it.

And what else does the U.S. document lack? The abrogation of the economic boycott. The passage of produce and services between Israel and Lebanon is discussed with reservations.

This is the U.S. plan for the settlement with Lebanon. Political elements think that in the talks with the Lebanese delegation Israel will not achieve more than the Americans have proposed. The tension in the relations between Jerusalem and Washington and the talk about the U.S. intention to deny Israel the fruits of its victory can perhaps be understood against this backdrop. Finally, there perhaps still remains a question to which the U.S. Administration has no answer either: What about the Syrians and the PLO? Do they intend to withdraw from Lebanon?

LIBYA

SAHARAN COMMUNIQUE ON MOROCCAN GENERAL'S DEATH

LD271502 Tripoli JANA in English 1424 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Algiers, Rabi Thani 12, Jan 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY -- The Saharan Information Ministry issued a communique yesterday saying that General Ahmed Dlimi, commander-in-chief of the Moroccan forces, was killed in a carefully planned assassination plot. The statement also refuted the Moroccan Government-alleged-car-accident in which the general was supposed to have been killed.

MOROCCO

REPORTAGE ON FRENCH PRESIDENT'S 3-DAY STATE VISIT

MAP Reports Rabat Arrival

LD271416 Rabat MAP in English 1255 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Rabat, Jan 27 (MAP) -- The president of France, Mr Francois Mitterrand, arrived here Thursday at 12:30 on a three-day visit to Morocco at the invitation of King Hassan II.

President Mitterrand was greeted upon arrival by King Hassan II, who was flanked by Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed and Prince Moulay Rachid.

Also present at the airport to greet the French president were the members of the Moroccan Government, headed by Premier Maati Bouabid, the king's advisers, the diplomatic corps accredited to Morocco, and many other civil and military personalities.

Addresses Parliament

LD271942 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1720 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Address by French President Francois Mitterrand to the Moroccan Parliament in Rabat -- live in French]

[Excerpts] Gentlemen, Morocco is a country placed in an exceptional strategic position. You need only look at a map of the world to know this. Such a position involves responsibilities and risks, of which your country has a long and solid experience. It leads you to constantly widen your horizons and to bring your weight to bear on the great problems of the time with clearly established positions.

I would like to dwell, if you will allow me, on some of these. Due to what we are, we cannot have strictly identical viewpoints on one of the most complex of these problems, that of the Middle East. But I note that we agree on an approach which alone can lead to peace, and that our objectives are close: To recognize and guarantee, on an equitable basis, the sacred rights of peoples and states. This means in clear terms that Israel must live within sure and recognized borders, as requested by the United Nations, and that the people, all peoples, the Palestinian people, must be in a position to determine their own destiny. Everyone is free to make proposals on the methods, and no one is holding back. To keep to the present, there is the French-Egyptian resolution presented at the UN Security Council, the Reagan plan, and the Fes summit conclusions. The essential point for me is that initiatives should complement and reinforce each other rather than contradict. [passage indistinct]

I will restrict myself to recalling the case of Lebanon and say that France remains ready in this domain, as in others, to take part in the peace forces under the aegis of the United Nations.

Elsewhere there is an absurd and bloody conflict between two countries, Iraq and Iran. I think I understand your concern, just as you understand France's position. My country does not want the balance established over many centuries in that region of the Gulf to be upset. Any possibility of mediation should be offered, and will, I hope, be accepted.

Although France is not an African country, it maintains privileged links with many countries of this continent, including your own, in the top league, as a result of history and geography, and you could add as a result of culture, which it intends not only to preserve, but also to enliven. It is with this purpose, and without wanting to take the place of those concerned or to dictate their conduct to anyone, that France has taken a stand, on Namibia, Chad, the Western Sahara. Let us say simply that the wishes of France are that peoples should be able to make their voices heard; that the necessary developments should take place by means of negotiations; that conflicts should be settled by the main parties concerned; that the great powers should as far as possible be kept outside these conflicts, which already offer them too many opportunities to intervene; and that in sum, Africa should succeed in resolving its problems while preserving its unity.

This is why, during a recent trip to black Africa, I said that Chad should be left to reconstruct; this is why the independence of Namibia is a necessity; this is why I always say I am in favor of self-determination for the peoples of the Western Sahara, and thus of a referendum, the procedures for this being established if necessary under the control of qualified international institutions. This shows the extent to which I approve the initiative of His Majesty King Hassan II, and how much I hope that a process which seems to me to be the only one capable of meeting the contradictions of the moment will be adhered to.

I have confidence in the good sense of the Moroccan people and in the wisdom of its leaders, rooted in a great and beautiful history. May the peoples and the nation of Morocco, the entire Maghreb, find in themselves the resources for understanding and cooperation, sketched out several times, to confront the economic battles, the battle of building a future to meet the needs of their youth.

I will repeat here what I say everywhere: Regional or local conflicts, if they last, attract and provoke new allies, and following them, the more powerful. Any local or regional conflict, if its lasts 1 day, is included in the context of international rivalries, and in particular, East-West rivalry. I do not think such an outcome is desirable for anyone.

For France, as for you in Morocco -- as you, Mr Speaker, said a moment ago -- the Mediterranean is of singular importance, not only because it is the cradle of our civilizations; or that on its coasts or the regions around them the majority of the ideas which form our souls were formulated and spread; not only because it has always been a link, a path, and not an obstacle; but also because it is today essential to the development of our trade and for our security. The expression lake of peace -- a wish as much as a program -- has often been used in reference to it. Let us try to give practical expression to this aspiration. Meetings between the countries of this region remain sporadic, too infrequent. I propose that we make them more frequent, firstly between ourselves and our immediate neighbors, until other countries to the north, to the south, to the east and the west of the Mediterranean join us insofar as is desirable.

The policy of France, that of its government, constantly encourages in [European] Community discussions the development of economic, social and cultural structures which will meet the new needs of the age.

The enlargement of Europe to include Spain and Portugal are part of this action. Before this is concluded we hope that the organization of the Common Market will be decided among the 10 present parties in those spheres where it is seen to be faulty, particularly as regards Mediterranean products. We hope that the legitimate interests of all, not forgetting the Mediterranean agricultural countries associated with the EEC, will be taken account in advance. France always concerned itself with this matter. I ask that this examination should take place quickly at community level.

I am just beginning my visit to your country. To your sovereign, His Majesty King Hassan II, with whom I will have long talks this evening, and tomorrow in Marrakech, I will say that we already have a great heritage, which our two countries have been building together for years. Let us, the French and Moroccan peoples, work together for the future. Let us invent, let us institute appropriate forms of cooperation which can serve as a model, and let us adapt them not only to our present era but to the Morocco and the France of the next millenium.

Roundup of Official Talks

LD272308 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Excerpt] The first round of talks between King Hassan II and French President Francois Mitterrand began this evening at 1930 in the Royal Court. The French President arrived in Morocco this afternoon on his first official visit since his assumption of the presidency in 1981.

The French President will meet again with King Hassan II during the banquet which the Moroccan monarch will be hosting this evening at Arriyad Palace in honor of President Francois Mitterrand. The political talks will continue during the next 2 days at Marrakech, where the king and his guest will be going tomorrow by train.

The French ministers accompanying President Mitterrand have met with their Moroccan counterparts to discuss the various fields of cooperation and review means to bolster this cooperation.

Cooperation was one of the basic points on which French President Francois Mitterrand concentrated in the speech he delivered this evening at the Chamber of Deputies, which convened yesterday in an extraordinary session. The session was also attended by Prime Minister Maati Bouabid and all of the ministers.

FURTHER REPORTS ON AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT

Meets Boucetta, Others

LD261344 Rabat MAP in English 1227 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Rabat, Jan 26 (MAP) -- Visiting Austrian minister of foreign affairs, Dr Willibald Pahr was received, here Tuesday, by Moroccan minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr M'hamed Boucetta.

Talks focused on ways of boosting the two countries' cooperation.

At the end of this meeting, the two ministers presided over a working session that was attended by the Moroccan secretary of state for foreign affairs, Mr Abdelhaz Tazi, the ambassador of Morocco to Austria, Mr Abderrahman Badou and the members of the delegation accompanying the Austrian minister.

Earlier, Dr Willibald Pahr met with Mr Azeddine Guessous, Moroccan minister of commerce, industry and tourism with whom he discussed cooperation perspectives between Morocco and Austria mainly in the areas of commerce and industry.

On this occasion, Mr Guessous underlined the necessity to examine possibilities of financing some development projects in Morocco and proposed the setting up of industrial companies in the areas of industry, agriculture and fisheries industry as well as light industry considering the importance of these sectors in the Moroccan economy.

The Moroccan minister also hoped an overture of the Austrian market to Moroccan products. [as received]

The head of the Austrian diplomacy also met with Mr Mansouri Banali, Moroccan minister of transports, with whom he discussed bilateral cooperation in the area of transport in general and the railway in particular.

On Tuesday morning, Dr Willibald Pahr held a working session with the Moroccan minister of energy and mines, Mr Moussa Saadi.

During the meeting, Mr Saadi briefed the Austrian minister on Morocco's achievements in the energy area and the mining sector and presented projects in which cooperation can be established between the two countries.

Press Conference

LD261400 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Austrian Foreign Minister Willibald Pahr today reaffirmed Austria's support for the Fes summit resolutions as a new step toward solving the Middle East problem. At a press conference in Rabat today, the Austrian minister praised the role of His Majesty King Hassan II at the head of the Arab seven-member committee in solving the Middle East issue.

Regarding the Moroccan Sahara issue, Pahr expressed his conviction that the Nairobi resolutions are a basis for solving this problem. The Austrian minister said his talks with senior Moroccan officials showed a great similarity in viewpoints. It was decided to extend cooperation between Austria and Morocco and to study the areas of this cooperation in light of the current Moroccan 5-year plan and in accordance with the requirements of the two sides. Pahr explained that the economic delegation which accompanied him on this visit was received with great interest by Moroccan officials who showed their full readiness to open new horizons for Austrian-Moroccan cooperation. On this occasion, he recalled the deep-rooted relations between Austria and Morocco and the determination of the two countries to develop them.

SUDAN

AT-TAYYIB CONFERS WITH IRAQI AMBASSADOR

JN271827 Khartoum SUNA in English 1730 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Khartoum, Jan 27, (SUNA) -- First Vice President 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib received here today the Iraqi ambassador to Khartoum.

The two sides reviewed consolidation of the existing relations between Sudan and Iraq along with the execution of the agreements reached during the recent visit paid by the vice president to Iraq.

The Iraqi ambassador stated that an Iraqi cultural delegation will arrive here next Saturday to follow up the concluded agreements between the two countries.

The ambassador declared that the meeting also focused on the role played by Sudanese volunteers along with their Iraqi brothers at the battle zone. He further hailed the Sudanese people's positive response to the Iraqi stand in repulsing the Iranian aggression against its territories.

The ambassador expressed satisfaction over the Sudanese officials, understanding to Iraq's problems.

WESTERN SAHARA

ABDELAZIZ COMMENTS ON MITTERRAND'S MOROCCO VISIT

LD280044 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2300 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Mr Mohamed Abdelaziz, president of the SDAR, has said that the visit to Morocco by the president of France leads to important remarks that should be mentioned in order to pinpoint the responsibilities of the parties in the conflict. The conflict of Western Sahara is characterized by its growing danger as a result of the continuation of the colonial war waged by King Hasan II against the Saharan people.

In a statement he made on 27 Janaury in Haouza, in the liberated areas of the SDAR, Abdelaziz said that this war is the source of tragedy and sufferings of all the peoples of the region. It is the core of the tragedy lived by our people, especially the civilians in the occupied regions inside the king's detention camps or jails.

President Mohamed Abdelaziz stressed that in order to continue his war against the rights of a whole people, Hasan II had flung the doors of Morocco wide open to U.S. bases, a matter that paves the way for the internationalizing of this conflict and threatens the peace and security of Africa and the states of the Mediterranean.

After emphasizing the role played by Morocco in the maneuvers aimed at the OAU, he explained that in these conditions, socialist France could not escape the responsibilities it has shouldered to seek a just solution to put an end to this conflict that saddens the entire region.

Mr Mohamed Abdelaziz then said: France must know that its military aid to Morocco is participation in the war effort that supports Morocco. This runs counter to France's wish for a peace that it has been openly emphasizing. At the same time, he affirmed that France must persuade Morocco to negotiate with the SDAR and the Polisario because this is the correct road leading to peace. He stressed that stability, security and cooperation in the region would always depend on this.

GHANA

RAWLINGS ON ALIENS IN NIGERIA, MERCENARY THREAT

AB280842 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] The chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, has appealed to traditional rulers to help in the resettlement of the expelled youth from Nigeria by making farming land easily available to them. This gesture will enable them to contribute their quota to the development of the country.

Addressing the national House of Chiefs in Kumasi, Flight Lt Rawlings asked Ghanaians not to show resentment or ill feelings toward their fellow nationals from Nigeria. They should be embraced and welcomed into their fold.

On the report of the activities of mercenaries and outside opposition groups against the country, the PNDC chairman said while they are real enough, the government would like to assure the nation that there is no cause for alarm. He emphasized that the people's armed forces are ready to meet the enemy and deliver a crushing blow to them. There is, however, no room for complacency, Flight Lt Rawlings added. He said no amount of sentimental attachment to the old customs and traditions should be allowed to stand in the way of the revolutionary transformation of the society. For this reason, the chiefs are expected to be the most forward-looking and innovative of the rural population.

Flight Lt Rawlings made it clear that the PNDC could do without the sort of support some of the chiefs gave to Acheampong's union government. He said the chiefs have the responsibility to encourage and exhort the people to embrace the government's efforts to raise productivity. Flight Lt Rawlings said a revolution like the one Ghanaians have instituted could only be firmly anchored on the basis of agricultural revolution. He said a precondition of this would entail a radical review of the country's agricultural economy, and the achievement of the review might mean a change of the land tenure system.

On the people's defense committees and workers defense committees, Flight Lt Rawlings asked the chiefs not to see them as rivals to their power. Rather, they should welcome them as complements to their authority.

'HORRIFYING' NIGERIAN ATROCITIES REPORTED

AB271841 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Meanwhile horrifying reports continue to come in from Nigeria about atrocities being committed by Nigerian hooligans against Ghanaians. It is reported that Nigerians carry milk tins perforated with nails and when they see a Ghanaian they rub his face with it causing serious injuries. Reports say the Nigerian authorities have lost control of the situation as hooligans roam the streets attacking any Ghanaians they see.

President Shagari of Nigeria, who is now visiting India, has warned that any Ghanaian who fails to beat the deadline by Monday would be arrested and put before court.

NIGERIA

LAGOS REPORTS ON PROGRESS OF EVACUATION

AB271730 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] About 3,000 Ghanaians expelled from Nigeria for illegally entering the country are reported to have arrived today by boat at Tema, near Accra. According to the report, a further 6,000 refugees were being expected today but it added that the prevailing harmattan weather had prevented aircrafts from the Nigerian capital to land in Accra. The report, however, gave no indication as to whether the Ghanaian authorities were considering opening Ghana's land borders closed since September last year. More than 65,000 Ghanaians are camping on the border between Benin and Togo hoping to get home via the Togolese port of Lome.

MILITARY COOPERATION PACT SIGNED WITH BENIN

AB271846 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] A military cooperation agreement was signed in Lagos today between Nigeria and the Republic of Benin. The accord, among other things, provides for the holding of jointly organized military exercises.

In a speech, the director of training of the Nigerian Army, Brigadier Mohamed Tsegah, stated that the agreement was a culmination of numerous meetings by the various committees set up to work out the modalities of the joint exercise.

In his response, the leader of the Beninois delegation, Major (Cot Coffrey), expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the negotiations on the issue.

TOGO

PRESIDENT EYADEMA MEETS ALIENS AT BORDER

AB280915 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Excerpt] General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding president of the Togolese People's Rally and president of the republic, went in person yesterday morning to the Sanvee-Condji border in order to boost the morale of the aliens who are waiting in the no man's land of the Togo-Benin border before continuing their journey to their respective countries. The head of state was accompanied by members of the Political Bureau, Kpotivi Lacle and Akapko-Ahianyo, and Central Committee member León Amegbo. They are respectively the ministers of interior, foreign affairs and cooperation, and minister delegate to the presidency charged with information, posts, and telecommunications.

On his arrival, the president was warmly cheered by thousands of people waiting at the border. The head of state told them that Togo will do everything in its power to enable them to live in decent conditions until they leave the border and return to their countries. We must recall that most of these waiting people are of Ghanaian origin, but there are also Malians and Upper Voltans. President Eyadema told them that substantial assistance will be given to them. Twenty tons of cassava flour -- 210 bags of 100 kg -- 2.5 tons of sugar -- 100 cartons of 25 kg -- and 1.5 tons of concentrated milk have been placed at the disposal of the welcome services for distribution to these aliens. We will recall that the social affairs department has already been distributing daily 6,500 loaves of bread, 2,000 cans of canned foods, and 200 kg of sugar.

ANGOLA SAYS TALKS WITH RSA ONLY 'PRELIMINARY'

AB271807 Paris AFP in English 1745 GMT 27 Jan 83

[By Jean-Luc Porte]

[Text] Luanda, Jan 27 (AFP) -- A new round of talks between Angola and South Africa on the Namibian question are only at a preliminary stage, diplomatic sources said here today.

The sources said that reports by the Portuguese News Agency ANOP that the talks had already begun were in error, and if Angolan and South African representatives were currently in Cape Verde, the presumed site of the negotiations, it would be to prepare a meeting at a higher level.

(Diplomatic sources at the United Nations said yesterday that Adriaan Eksteen, South Africa's former ambassador to the U.N., had arrived in Cape Verde, and the Foreign Ministry in Pretoria confirmed that a representative would go to the West African archipelago this week to discuss "among other things the suitability of a place and time for the next meeting.")

A well-informed Angolan source also described as "hasty" ANOP's report that Angola and South Africa had agreed to a ceasefire, involving withdrawal of Cuban and Namibian nationalist South-West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) forces to a line 200 kilometres (120 miles) north of the Namibian border and an end to South African support for the Angolan rebel UNITA movement.

The same source noted that such a deal was similar to that proposed by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Frank Wisner, which was rejected by Luanda last September. However in the new arrangement the Cubans would be pulled back but remain in Angola, instead of leaving the country altogether.

Angolan sources also indicated that Pretoria was softening its line on the Cuban presence, and now considered it a question to be negotiated between Luanda and Washington.

Yesterday diplomatic sources said that the U.S. ambassador in Lusaka, Nicholas Platt, who left here today after a two-day visit, had asked the Angolan authorities to study South African proposals on the Cuban troops "carefully."

Mr Platt said on his departure that he had had a lengthy exchange of views with Angolan officials, including Foreign Minister Paulo Jorge. He refused to give any more details, but said that contact was being maintained.

Well-informed sources said that the talks had proceeded without argument, and another meeting had been agreed in principle, though no date had been fixed.

The last visit by a U.S. delegation was last September from Mr Wisner, who was Mr Platt's predecessor as ambassador in Lusaka.

The official JORNAL DE ANGOLA newspaper today gave prominence to the talks and Mr Platt's statement on arrival here that the United States and Angola shared a desire for a return to peace and stability in Southern Africa.

Meanwhile French President Francois Mitterrand's special adviser on Africa, Guy Penne, was due in Luanda late today for talks on the Namibian question, a diplomatic source said.

Mr Penne spent three days in Angola last November, during which he gave a message from Mr Mitterrand to Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. It was thought here that his return could be connected with an answer to the message.

U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar is also expected here on Monday, among persistent rumors of an imminent meeting of the Central Committee of Angola's ruling Popular Liberation Movement (MPLA).

NAMIBIA

SWAPO LEADER PAYS FRIENDSHIP VISIT TO PRC

For Beijing media accounts of the visit to the PRC by SWAPO President Sam Nujoma -- including pre-tour interviews and talks with PRC leaders -- see the Middle East & Africa section of the China DAILY REPORT for 24 January and subsequent issues.

SOUTH AFRICA

UNITA COMMUNIQUE ON RECENT ATTACKS REPORTED

MB271612 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] The Angolan resistance movement has disclosed that in recent attacks on Angolan installations its troops killed 9 Cubans and 116 government soldiers. In a communique issued in Lisbon, UNITA says that it also took 20 Angolan soldiers prisoner in operations in 5 provinces on 23 and 24 January. Twenty-six vehicles were destroyed and large quantities of weapons and ammunition were seized. The communique says the attacks were carried out in commemoration of the founding of UNITA's armed forces 16 years ago.

ANGOLA CEASE-FIRE WOULD NEED ASSURANCES ON SWAPO

MB280740 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Station commentary: "Cease-Fire in Angola"]

[Text] Reports indicate that the issue of a cease-fire along the South-West Africa-Angolan border is one of those receiving the attention of the South African and Angolan delegations in the Cape Verde Islands. However, in this connection there can be little doubt that South Africa would be extremely wary of such a move unless assurances can be obtained that SWAPO would withdraw to a point where it cannot continue its incursions into South-West Africa.

The reason for South African caution is because the country's security forces have the upper hand in the war. This is the general view of all observers. SWAPO has been dealt telling blows, and the number of SWAPO incursions into South-West Africa has been reduced dramatically. South Africa would, therefore, not agree to any cease-fire that gave SWAPO an opportunity to reorganize.

A very serious complicating factor remains: the position of UNITA. This is an internal Angolan matter which will have to be cleared up before an internal settlement in Angola is possible. This was made clear again this week, when UNITA warned that its forces would ignore any cease-fire or buffer zone established by Angola and South Africa.

The point to make, therefore, is no matter what arrangements are made between Angola and South Africa, without UNITA being drawn into such arrangements there is little chance for success. UNITA controls most of southern Angola.

It is steadily growing in influence and is pushing northwards, and 30,000 Cuban troops assisted by the MPLA forces have been unable to put a stop to UNITA's activities.

There are signs that this situation is being appreciated increasingly within Angola. President Dos Santos is said to be heading a group that is willing to negotiate with UNITA in an attempt to resolve the dispute, and recent purges within the government have been aimed at getting rid of the more militant radical elements who appear to consist mainly of whites and mulattos. The situation in Angola is, therefore, closely linked with not only a cease-fire but the attempt to achieve a settlement in South-West Africa. The obvious equation is as follows: Settlement in Angola equals Cuban withdrawal equals settlement in South-West Africa/Namibia. All of Southern Africa would benefit if this scenario could be achieved.

RAND DAILY MAIL REPORTS ON ESPIONAGE SUSPECTS

MB271100 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 27 Jan 83 p 1

[By John Battersby, political correspondent]

[Text] Cape Town -- A senior officer in the South African Defence Force, Commodore Dieter F. Gerardt, 47, and his attractive wife, have been detained in connection with the passing of South African military secrets to the Soviet Union.

The detention of Commodore Gerardt, who was the officer commanding the Simonstown naval dockyard, has sent shockwaves through the South African Defense Force [SADF] and could lead to one of the most sensational spy trials in South African history.

Commodore Gerardt and his wife Ruth are being held under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act which provides for 30-day periods of detention for the purposes of interrogation renewable by ministerial edict.

It is understood from independent sources that a substantial sum of money -- in the region of R250,000 -- was involved in the alleged exchange of military secrets to Russia.

The announcement was made by a grim-faced prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, at a snap press conference in Cape Town yesterday.

Mr Botha was flanked by the minister of defence, Mr Magnus Malan.

It is reliably understood that as head of the SA Navy's largest repair and construction facility, Commodore Gerardt was privy to top-secret military intelligence including details of the most sophisticated naval dockyard in Sub-Saharan Africa.

In a terse official announcement Mr Botha said:

"A senior officer of the South African Navy in Simonstown, Commodore D.F. Gerardt, and his wife are being detained for questioning in terms of Section 29 of the Internal Security Act.

"The South African security services are jointly engaged in a high level investigation and all evidence and facts will be submitted to the attorney-general as soon as possible."

Mr Botha indicated in reply to questions after the announcement that he believed that sensitive information had already reached Moscow and would inevitably damage South Africa's security interests.

Asked whether the information alleged to have been passed to Russia had reached its destination Mr Botha said: "Yes, otherwise I would not have made this statement."

Mr Botha said he did not know if more arrests would follow the detention of Commodore Gerardt.

Opposition parties have reacted with shock to the disclosures and have called for the earliest explanation from the government.

Mr Philip Myburgh, chief defence spokesman for the Progressive Federal Party, said he hoped the case would be brought to trial as soon as possible.

"A person in the position which Commodore Gerardt occupied would of necessity have been privy to a number of sensitive areas in the navy and in the maritime defence network.

"Therefore a speedy resolution to this case would do much to reassure the public that our security has not been irreparably compromised."

Mr Vause Raw, leader of the New Republic Party, expressed shock that Russia had the ability to subvert such a senior officer and called for "counter-measures to ensure that this was an isolated case."

Mr Koos Van Der Merwe, defence spokesman for the Conservative Party, expressed concern at the party's full co-operation in a matter affecting national security.

Although Mr Botha did not say when Commodore Gerardt and his wife were detained it is understood from independent sources that the couple were held last Friday.